

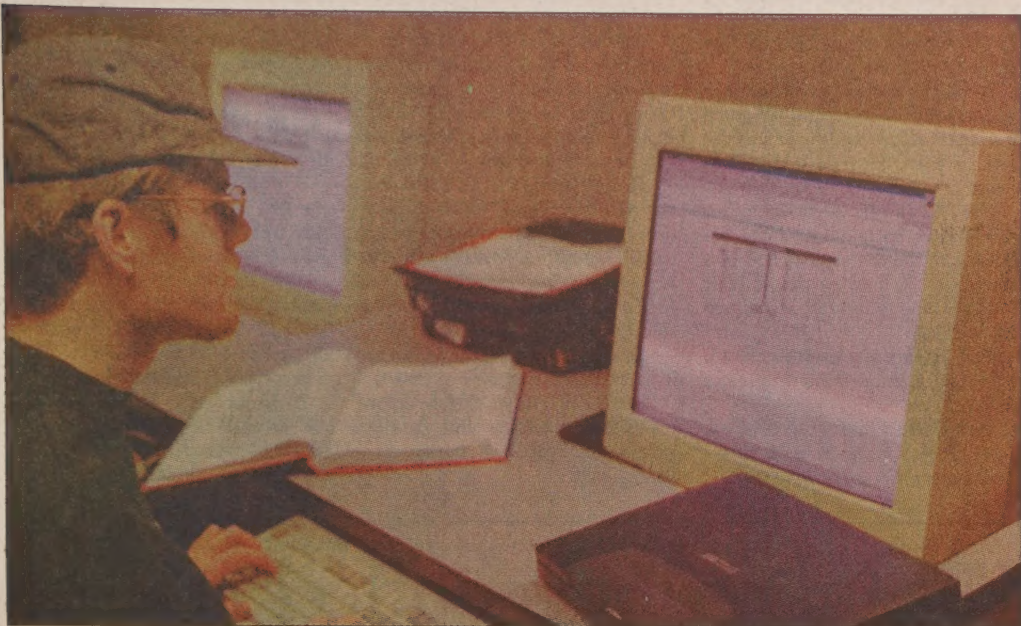
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

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FEBRUARY 14, 2002

JHU to implement online registration for Fall 2002



Junior Peter Keeler will be able to register for classes from the comfort of his own computer this spring.

BY ISHAI MOOREVILLE
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

After the successful implementation of Web-based course registration last semester for seniors, the Registrar's office plans to make online registration available to all students beginning in the spring for the Fall 2002 semester. This will complement other features just made available like add/drop and grade access.

"We've been working on improving student systems for a number of years and this is a wonderful step forward," said Registrar of the Homewood campus Hedy Schaedel.

Since classes started the Web-based add/drop system has operat-

ing without any problems, except for a brief period on Jan. 29 when it went down around noon.

Seniors piloted the system this fall when online registration first came into affect. Then, after the semester began on Jan. 28, online add/drop became available to all students, who could now do so without a green form or advisor's signature.

"It's a terrific asset for the students here and it gives them greater freedom and responsibility than they had before because they no longer need a signature for all add/drop transactions," said Assistant Dean of Academic Advising John Bader.

The system was developed in coordination between the Registrar's

Office and Hopkins Information Technology Services (HITS), where Alex Gogue was a leading programming developer.

"It was a team effort," said Schaedel.

When adding classes online, credit limits for freshmen and upperclassmen remain intact. The web-based

CONTINUED ON PAGE A4

McCarty to leave Hopkins

BY MATT O'BRIEN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Richard McCarty has chosen to step down from his role as the James B. Knapp Dean of the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences (KSAS). McCarty, who has been a senior member in the Hopkins Biology Department since 1990, will return to his laboratory research and teaching. Daniel Weiss, the current Dean of the Faculty, will take his place.

"I desperately miss my laboratory," said McCarty. "And I never gave it up... It's part of me."

McCarty took over the deanship immediately after Herbert Kessler abruptly resigned in late Nov. 1999. It was not McCarty's first time as leader of KSAS, though, having served for a one-year interim period in 1997/1998 during the University's search for permanent leadership.

"When I came into this the school was not in great shape," said McCarty, citing the Krieger School's inability to retain leadership in past years for more than 18 months at a time.

"In the last nine years, counting me twice, we've had seven different deans," said McCarty. He called the constant shifting of leadership over the last decade "very destabilizing."

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HOLLY MARTIN/NEWS-LETTER

Students attend a rally for an African-American Studies Department.

StuCo weighs in on JHUnity proposal

BY ANNA HUTCHINSON
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Class of 2005 Representative and JHUnity member Morgan MacDonald presented a proposal demanding the creation of an African and African-American Studies department to the Student Council (StuCo) on Tuesday night. After discussion and debate between StuCo

members and JHUnity members, the proposal was approved and endorsed by StuCo.

"I am glad StuCo has supported JHUnity and its proposal for the creation of an African and African-American Studies department," MacDonald said.

JHUnity is an umbrella organization that supports diversity awareness and issues. Some of its undergraduate members began drafting the proposal in September with the aid of professors from Hopkins and Towson University and Hopkins graduate students. In its text, it addresses the 30-year struggle to develop a department for African and African-American studies at Hopkins. It states: "The demand for a viable and vibrant department for the research and dissemination of knowledge relating to African and African-American culture remains largely unfulfilled."

In response to requests for a similar department in 1994 by the Black Student Union, the Program for Comparative American Cultures (CAC) was formed. The program offers study in African-American culture as well as Asian-American and

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Fire forces residents to evacuate McCoy Hall

BY CHARLES DONEFER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

On Monday evening, an appliance fire in McCoy Hall forced the evacuation of that building's residents. According to Sgt. Richard LeBrun of Johns Hopkins Security, between 9:30 and 10 p.m., residents "were cooking a bagel in a toaster that somehow caught fire, which spread to a wicker basket. Then, the fire reached the front of a microwave [oven] and burned the face of the microwave."

Residential advisor David Silver, who is a trained volunteer structural firefighter was arriving on the second floor of McCoy from a staff meeting when one of the residents from the suite in which the fire took place. "They said, 'Dave, my room's on fire!'" said Silver, who saw smoke coming from the suite. Silver then asked the resident to pull the fire alarm while he cleared the room of other individuals, took a fire extinguisher

and put out the flames, which he estimated to be between three and four feet high.

After Silver subdued the flames, he ventilated the room, then called security and the Baltimore City Fire Department.

Custodial services was later called to clean up the debris caused by the fire.

According to LeBrun, the fire was not caused by any violation of fire codes or housing regulation and consequently, no action has been taken against the residents of the suite in which the fire occurred. Previous fires in the residence halls have been caused by halogen lamps overheating and catching fire to flammable items in their vicinity. The lamps are now banned from University housing.

The evacuation of McCoy was orderly, with full compliance on the part of residents, according to LeBrun. "It was pretty organized when I got there," said LeBrun.



ERIC RIDGE/NEWS-LETTER

A fire started in McCoy Monday night, causing residents to evacuate.

Ruby Tuesday now taking J-CASH



FILE PHOTO

Students can now use J-CASH at the local Ruby Tuesday. The restaurant started accepting J-CASH in January.

BY MIKE SPECTOR
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

After delaying participation in the program for the entire fall semester, Ruby Tuesday is now regularly accepting J-CASH at its Hopkins Square location.

The restaurant formally began accepting J-CASH on Jan. 5, according to Managing Partner Robert Wolfe, and has completely solved the computer problems that caused the business to delay accepting J-CASH last semester.

Previously, Ruby Tuesday was unable to close the JCard successfully, meaning that once processed, the card would be stuck in the restaurant's computer system, with nowhere to go. Wolfe said that Jan Kirby, a representative of Ruby Tuesday's support center and Regional Financial Accountant office, fixed the problem and "gave us the proper key to close it to."

Kirby was unavailable for comment.

Now, J-CASH can be processed at the restaurant just as effectively as other forms of payment.

"Everything has been going problem-free. We now close the JCard to 'Accounts Receivable,'" said Wolfe. "That gets it out of the [computer] system. It dials to Hopkins to make sure there are sufficient funds available and, three hours after close, the money is wired to Bank of America."

Wolfe is satisfied with JCard use so far, but said he doesn't think the word is out quite yet that Ruby Tuesday is accepting J-CASH.

"Some days we get eight to 10 J-CASH purchases, some days we get

none," Wolfe said. "I don't think the word is out just yet. We'll probably start posting signs soon."

Before, signs were posted in Ruby Tuesday and around campus, stating that the restaurant would be unable to accept J-CASH until January.

Indeed, Student Advantage, which oversees the J-CASH program, said its biggest concern is making sure that students are informed that Ruby Tuesday now accepts J-CASH just as effectively as they were informed about the delay last semester.

"We're in the process of getting things up around the University and letting students know," said Student

Advantage Account Manager Tara Gross. "We want to try and follow in the same mediums as when we were telling everyone about the delay."

Wolfe said that sales have been decent and that business was not as slow in the last month as he had anticipated, with more students around in January than he expected. According to Wolfe, sales are up 20 percent from last year and students are enthusiastic about J-CASH.

"I'm glad the students are back," Wolfe said. "The students really supply a lifeblood to our business. Kids have been pretty excited. We've had

CONTINUED ON PAGE A3

Employer turnout low at fair

BY LIZ STEINBERG
AND JESSICA VALDEZ
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Many universities have been fighting an uphill battle to attract employers — many of whom have frozen or decreased hiring — to job fairs this school year. The slow economy was evident at the Johns Hopkins University spring job fair — only 40 employers attended, down from 65 at last February's fair.

Many students and employers were unhappy with Hopkins' fair on

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE



IS V-DAY ALL ABOUT STUFF?

These days, Valentine's Day is just about shopping for the cutest teddy bear, the freshest flowers and the most interestingly-themed condoms. I mean, where's the love? Page B1

A ROUND COMPUTER

Even if you're a PC user, we know that you secretly want one of those sickly-sweet Apple iMacs. We check out the features of this too-cute hunk-a hunk-a burnin' circuits. Page A8

JANUARY IS LONG GONE

...but Janizary is still going strong. Check out what Zernike and his kooky pals are up to in the latest installment of the future-classic strip. Page B9

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NEWS

McCarty leaves, David steps down

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1
As Chair of the Department of History of Art, Daniel Weiss served as a senior advisor for academic matters during 2000 and 2001, when he "got very involved in the workings of the Dean's office."

In Sept. 2001, Weiss took on the role of Dean of the Faculty, a new position that McCarty added to provide more administrative support for maintaining the Office's duties. McCarty said that he had Weiss in the back of his mind as a successor when adding him to the new position.

"This is going to be a totally seamless transition," said McCarty. "And I'm really glad about that."

McCarty has made sure that Weiss is prepared to take over the job.

"Dean McCarty has worked hard to provide me with a strong background and training to take this job," said Weiss. "So I believe the transition will be a very smooth one."

McCarty does not foresee this as any sort of setback for the University. "We are poised to take the next step," said McCarty.

"We have gone through a 12-year period of what could be best called creative retention. We were trying to use the limited resources we had just to keep us afloat and do the best we could. But now with the Strategic Plan we know where we want to go and that, I think, is perhaps the best thing to come out of my deanship—that, and Dean Weiss."

The Strategic Plan, completed last year, sets a mission plan for the Krieger School to accomplish over the next five to seven years, encompassing objectives such as faculty recruitment and retention, the structure of undergraduate and

graduate education and the future of academic departments and programs.

"The school is stabilized," said McCarty. "We have a plan, we know where we're going, and now, having done this, I have to step back and let younger [and] by definition more energetic leadership come forth."

McCarty graduated from Hopkins in 1960 and received his Ph.D. in Biochemistry in 1964. He will become Dean Emeritus effective June 30 and will continue spending a large portion of his time working with alumni.

Weiss' first activity as the new Dean was to lunch with Student Council President Anuj Mittal in order "to get his advice and tell him what I'm thinking about."

The meeting was scheduled prior to the announcement, and Weiss planned to talk to Student Council members about the uncertain state of the Comparative American Cultures Program and proposals for an African-American Studies Department.

Weiss plans on maintaining close contact with the student body.

"He impressed me with a care for undergrads," said Mittal. "I hope he follows through and only time will tell."

Weiss' other objectives include keeping the graduate programs competitive and working together with all members of the University community.

"I'm already working with the Peabody in strengthening our relations with each other and would like to do that with the other divisions," said Weiss.

"We have real challenges facing us," said Weiss. "Our Strategic Plan outlines very significant fundraising goals in order to accomplish our re-

search and educational goals for the next five years."

Weiss has set attracting new faculty as one of his top priorities. "Over the long term, nothing sets the academic quality of the school more than the faculty," said Weiss. "Acquiring and retaining faculty is arguably the most important duty for the Dean. If you can lead the faculty well, then you've got what you need in place."

Weiss will still occasionally teach courses, but is putting much of his research "on the back burner."

However, he will continue to organize an exhibition of 13th-century Crusader art that will appear next year at the Walter's Art Gallery.

As the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences (KSAS) prepares to announce changes in the structure of its administration, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Steven David says that he will not be continuing his current administrative role on a full-time basis.

"My intention is to go half-time in June," said David. "I would go back to doing more teaching and research in the department but still retaining my Associate Dean's position on a half-time basis. Everything is subject to change, but that's my intention as of this moment."

He already knows how he intends to use his extra time. "I want to spend more of my time on research and teaching," said David. "I'm planning on teaching, for instance, CIP [Contemporary International Politics] in the fall."

David was asked by then Kessler to take over the newly created associate position in December 1998.

"It was always an interim position," he said. "Interim in the sense that, initially, when I took the job, the agreement was for two and a half years. I extended it a bit beyond that, so I'm actually in this position a bit longer than I had contracted for."

"In my own view, it was always an in-and-out kind of thing," he said. "And I think there is a value to having faculty as associate deans who are from the faculty and going back to the faculty."

Weiss, who has occupied the newly established Dean of Faculty position since the beginning of the academic year, has taken over some of the duties previously allotted to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

McCarty said on Tuesday that more elaborate developments regarding the future of the Arts and Sciences administration will be revealed next week.

JHUnity seeking new department

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1
Jewish-American cultures. JHUnity feels, however, that CAC is not sufficient because it does not have proper funding and is in turmoil resulting from the recent and abrupt removal of its previous director, Nahum Chandler.

"As a program, [CAC] can't offer what a department can," said JHUnity member Dorit Radzin. "[The African and African-American Studies Department] will not replace the CAC... it must be established to make the CAC work."

JHUnity feels that CAC is too broad to be considered acceptable. "It is trying to lump studies of multiple cultures into one program and I don't think that provides a program of sufficient study for any of the cultures, especially the African and African-American cultures," MacDonald said.

JHUnity also hopes that the creation of an African and African-American Studies Department will attract more African-American students and professors to Hopkins. Currently, there is only one tenured African-American faculty member at Hopkins and only 35 freshmen are African-American.

"The Admissions Office does a lot

of work to attract African-American students who then don't choose to come here and I see that as a problem. We are diverse in some respects, but not in this one," JHUnity member Eric Leslie said. "This would be one way to say we present a new face to them that is different than the one we did before."

The proposal is currently in the hands of the Board of Trustees to be reviewed in May. JHUnity also plans to distribute it to the faculty and send it to professors of African-American studies at Harvard, Brown and other schools that have similar departments. The Society of Black Alumni is currently working on writing a sister document to accompany the students' proposal.

Student Council President Anuj Mittal encouraged underclassmen officers to take an active role in the advancement of this proposal, since it will most likely be a year or two before it achieves fruition.

"We're endorsing a pretty big thing here," said Mittal. "It is important that it's backed with more action."

Staff writer Julianna Finelli contributed to this report.

Post writer lectures on medical journalism

BY ISHAI MOOREVILLE
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Dr. David Brown, a medical reporter for the *Washington Post*, spoke about his career before about 50 students at 7 p.m. on Monday in the Mattin Center. The talk was a part of a series of on-going lectures coordinated by the Office of Pre-Professional Advising entitled "New Concepts for the Application of a Medical Education."

Brown, a reporter for the *Post* since 1993, has written many articles on medical and science related issues. He has covered many topics including the Anthrax scare, foreign AIDS epidemics and gene manipulation as well as stem cell research and organ transplantation.

Not everyone who graduates with an M.D. ends up working in a hospital, and Brown is a prime example.

"The only pre-medical course I took in college was Chemistry, and I barely even passed it," he said.

Initially uninterested in medicine, Brown graduated from Amherst College with a major in American Studies. Subsequently, he began his career in journalism as he spent some time at a weekly alternative paper in New Orleans, then moved to Mississippi

where he got a job as one of five reporters at a small paper.

"I knew that if I wanted to stay in journalism, I needed to learn the hard basics."

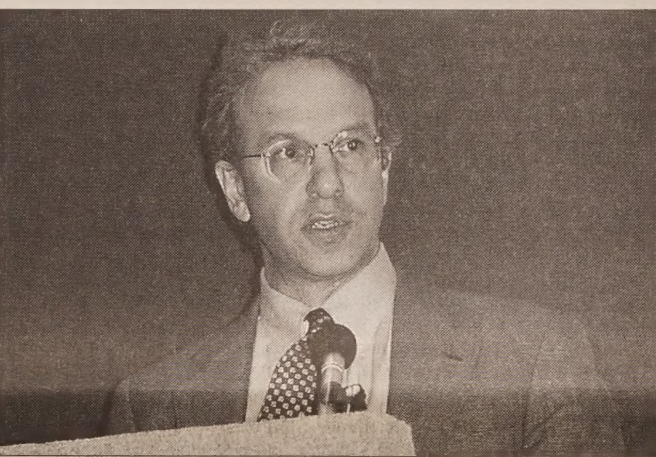
In Mississippi, he covered everything from cotton soybean farming to civil rights issues. With a solid knowledge of the basic elements of journalism, Brown moved on to a job with the *Baltimore Sun* as a general assignment reporter.

After working there for six years, he decided he wanted to become a doctor. "I wanted a body of knowledge, something I could sink my teeth into, so I decided to cash out and try and get into medical school."

He returned to college for a year to complete the pre-medical course requirements. He then enrolled in the Medical College of Pennsylvania where he graduated in 1987. After completing his residency as an internist, Brown was not looking to return to the world of journalism, but he soon was back in the field.

A friend of Brown's working at *The Washington Post* informed him that they were looking for a new medical journalist. Brown accepted the offer: "It was an opportunity to get up the mountain and I did just that."

Nowadays, he spends four days a



LIZ STEINBERG/NEWS-LETTER
Brown's talk was part of a series sponsored by Pre-Professional Advising.

week working for the *Post* and one day a week educating medical students at a nearby clinic on how to effectively interview a patient. "Eliciting the right information is key," said Brown.

Despite increased focus in science and medical reporting recently,

Brown highlighted the conflicts and issues that arise in his position.

"When you write a science article, you can't assume a reader knows anything and that makes it hard to write in-depth articles about biology or genetics," he said.



FILE PHOTO
Diners at Ruby Tuesday can now freely spend their J-CASH dollars there.

JCards now accepted at local Ruby Tuesday

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1
repeat users with J-CASH, and the response [to us accepting the card] has been very positive."

Gross said that even though she wants to do more to inform the public that the restaurant is now taking J-CASH, the current sales seem to indicate that students are aware that Ruby Tuesday is now accepting JCards.

"We've seen sales go through and it looks like students are aware," said Gross. "We're totally excited, absolutely excited [to have Ruby Tuesday taking J-CASH]. The sales have been very decent."

Wolfe believes that J-CASH will help business overall.

"Our staffing is better and our execution is better than it was last year [when we opened]," said Wolfe. "J-CASH is one of the different tools we can use to let people know we're here."

Wolfe is hosting a sorority party at the restaurant next Thursday, which he thinks will better inform the public that Ruby Tuesday is now accepting J-CASH.

Gross said that Ruby Tuesday had a special discount promotion for "kick-off week," when the semester started, but the restaurant does not have any promotions scheduled for the rest of the month.

The J-CASH program, which began last fall, allows students to use their JCards as debit cards at on-campus and area retailers.

Hopkins attempted to introduce a program similar to J-CASH in the fall of 2000, but had to wait until last fall to actually launch the program because of some technical difficulties.

Wolfe enthusiastically signed a contract with the University and Student Advantage to accept J-CASH in the fall of 2000, when Hopkins tried to launch the program.

However, corporate executives in Ruby Tuesday were uncomfortable with the technical difficulties they were experiencing last fall, and told Wolfe to tell the University he would not be able to participate in the program until January.

Student Advantage tried to convince Wolfe to go through with his obligation, but Wolfe was adamant that his superiors were not comfortable with taking J-CASH during the first academic semester.

Although Wolfe's contract required him to accept J-CASH last fall, Student Advantage did not want to alienate Ruby Tuesday and allowed the restaurant to wait until January to start participating in the J-CASH program.

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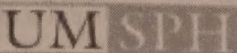
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Job fair opportunities low



Hopkins' job fair drew 400 students, while 5,000 students attended Georgetown University's fall job fair.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Feb. 6. Both student and employer attendance was down. Approximately 400 students attended, down from 700 at last year's February fair.

"The job fair has been a little slower than in the past," said Bruce Bergman, an economist for the U.S. Department of Labor. "But with a slow economy, we didn't expect much."

Many companies were offering fewer positions than in past years, and some companies had no positions at all but attended in order to maintain a campus presence.

"I've noticed there aren't as many employers here today," said Margo Silveira, college recruiter for ARINC, an Annapolis-based aviation communications company.

"Even though we're not hiring as many people, we're still here to keep our presence on campus."

While ARINC usually accepts 30 to 35 interns per summer, Silveira said the number will probably decrease this year.

Silveira said her company is predominantly hiring experienced workers rather than those recently out of college.

"The fair went extremely well considering the economy is really bad," said Adrienne Alberts, interim director of the Johns Hopkins Career Center.

The fair brought as many employers as it did in its first year when the economy was good, according to Alberts.

RECRUITING BUDGETS LOWER

Fewer jobs are available, so employers are less inclined to spend money recruiting at job fairs, said Mona Martin, associate director for on campus recruiting at the Towson University Career Center. Martin helped coordinate the Central Maryland Job Fair, which attracted

124 employers this past January, compared to a peak of 180 last year.

"It really does boil down to a business term - it's the return on my investment," said Jim Dixey, associate director for the Georgetown University MBNA Career Education Center, speaking from the perspective of employers. Sending representatives a career fair can cost a company as much as \$2,000, including fair registration, hotel, airfare and other incidental costs, Dixey estimated.

Employer attendance at Georgetown University's fall job fair rose this past year, which Dixey attributed in part to the large number of students it attracts. This school year, 5,000 students attended from colleges around the region.

According to Dixey, 164 employers from fields including investment banking, consulting and intelligence attended the school's October fair, up from 102 the previous year.

Although the fair was only a month after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, which further constricted a tight economy, all scheduled employers attended, said Dixey.

In comparison, 64 employers attended JHU's fall job fair, down from 119 the year before.

Keeping employers coming is difficult, said Mark Gasche, associate director for recruiting for the University of Chicago Career and Placement Services.

The University of Chicago added new fairs, including a fall fair that attracted 45 employers, in order to combat a difficult economy. The new fall fair and the January fair together attracted as many employers as did the Jan. 2001, which had approximately 90, said Gasche.

DIFFERENT COMPANIES ATTENDING

Students can expect to find a

slightly different group of employers at this year's fairs. Fewer consulting, advertising and banking firms have been present, while nonprofit organizations, the military and government agencies are more likely to be recruiting.

Although the government and nonprofits are still hiring, an abundance of well-educated graduates will make it more difficult for students to find jobs, said Steve Henderson, a representative at the Hopkins fair from the U.S. Department of Labor.

"There are so many good students from here and the other top 10 schools. If we could, we would hire the whole class of people," said Henderson.

However, the Department of Labor has very few openings right now, he added.

Some students expressed dissatisfaction with variety and numbers of companies at the fair.

"There's not enough companies here," said student Hussein Akhavan. "It's pretty diverse, but I think in each field there's too few companies."

Student Ari Dickstein complained about the lack of variety in job availability, with most companies catering toward engineering students.

This is hard to change, in part due to the nature of career fairs, according to Alberts.

"The types of employers that come to the career fair are very specific types of employers: They are employers who have large hiring needs and can predict that need into the future," she said.

Alberts recommended that students don't rely solely on career fairs to find jobs, adding that the Career Center has added new networking programs at the recommendation of alumni.

"In terms of this economic setting, I would not rely solely on the career fair," said Alberts.

Secretary proposes petition to open old AC basketball courts

BY JULIANNA FINELLI
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Student Council President Anuj Mittal relayed to Council members the appreciation of Assistant Dean of Academic Advising John Bader and Dean of the Faculty Daniel Weiss, who requested their help last week in the development of an honor code. With Weiss' new position as the James B. Knapp Dean of the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences (effective July 1), the Student Council hopes to set up more student contacts with that office, providing the dean with a network of diverse students.

Various SAC groups have expressed concern that an inability to recruit incoming students through e-mail has hurt membership. The Student Council took the matter to Dean of Students Susan Boswell, who expressed her own concern that students might be bombarded by too much e-mail. The Student Council resolved to provide an SAC Admissions Brochure, in which student groups could include a descriptive blurb and contact information. Treasurer Noel de Santos believes this is a "fair compromise" in that it allows groups to recruit more effectively and allows students to ask questions ahead of time.

Student complaints have compelled the Student Council to take action regarding the lack of basketball courts available to non-varsity students. After Student Council Secretary Manish Gala received over 80 e-mails from dissatisfied students, he posted an online petition (allowing students to print the form and obtain signatures). The petition requests that the back gym of the old Athletic Center be open to non-varsity students or intramural teams. Currently, the new AC has two courts available during non-varsity hours, but one is reserved for intramurals. According to Gala, one court is simply not enough for the general public.

"I think it's reasonable for a kid to wait 15 minutes for a court, but the wait has been much longer," said Gala.

The arguments against opening the back gym to the non-varsity pub-

lic include concerns over security and floor damage. Gala feels that the present security would be adequate, with the possible addition of a monitor to oversee activity in the gym.

The Student Council has been working with Associate Dean of Students Dorothy Sheppard in initiating "Faculty/Student Meals." Professors would be able to take students out to lunch or dinner with funding from the University.

Council members are exploring the idea of providing sign-up sheets for students, and will eventually send e-mails to the entire student body regarding this activity. The purpose is to give students and faculty the opportunity to connect on a more personal and casual level.

"This is a semi-trial period," said

Junior Class Vice-President Sarah Cummings. "If it works, we can do big things next year."

The Student Council is waiting for confirmation from payroll regarding the MARC train ticket subsidization for students. The Student Council will no longer be able to purchase tickets ahead of time, due to the heightened security after Sept. 11. Instead, students will be able to save their ticket stubs and submit them to Boswell, along with an accreditation form, to receive a check for all but \$5 of the ticket price.

Homewood Student Affairs (HSA) is ready to distribute their new transportation packet to freshman and sophomores. It includes information about Baltimore places of interest and transportation options.

STUDENT COUNCIL ATTENDANCE, FEBRUARY 12, 2002			
Executive Officers			
President Anuj Mittal	338-7569	Present	
VP Institutional Relations Katie Dix	516-2567	ABSENT	
VP Administration Priya Sarin	366-7766	Present	
Secretary Manish Gala	516-2573	Present	
Treasurer Noel DeSantos	516-2759	Present	
Class of 2002			
President Stephen Goutman	889-3421	Present	
Vice President Meredith Price	243-2467	Present	
Secretary/Treasurer Camille Fesche	978-2244	Present	
Representative Renato Carfagno	516-2786	ABSENT	
Representative Samantha Kanner	467-5798	ABSENT	
Representative Grey Emmons	243-0499	Present	
Class of 2003			
President Ravi Kavaseery	662-4982	Present	
Vice President Sarah Cummings	889-4948	Present	
Secretary/Treasurer Tara Feehan	516-3676	Present	
Representative Omer Taviloglu	499-7467	Present	
Representative Chris Cunico	889-1066	ABSENT	
Representative Priti Dalal	467-8692	Present	
Class of 2004			
President Bob Alleman	467-1110	Present	
Vice President Simone Chen	516-3567	Present	
Secretary/Treasurer Leah Greenfield	516-3607	ABSENT	
Representative Jackie Chan	516-3756	Present	
Representative Benjamin Wang	516-3686	Present	
Representative Ali Fenwick	443-722-8689	Present	
Class of 2005			
President Ben Radel	516-5942	Present	
Vice President Megan Coe	516-5905	Present	
Secretary/Treasurer Shannon Chang	516-5610	Present	
Representative Morgan McDonald	516-5603	Present	
Representative Charles Keyner	516-5845	Present	
Representative Manu Sharma	516-5832	Present	

Online registration gearing up

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

add/drop software also allows students to find out whether or not certain classes were full.

"The beauty of online registration and add/drop is that feedback is instant in terms of whether or not there is room in a class. It doesn't necessarily change the fact that there isn't room though," said Bader.

The system eliminated much of the need for students to spend time waiting at the Registrar's office for schedule changes, like they had to in the past. Dean of Students Susan Boswell believes that the system is a great enhancement to student service.

"We wanted to make things easier for the students. Standing in line at the Registrar is not a great way to spend your time," she said.

In addition to being a place where students can check grades, get schedules and request transcripts, Web Services will serve some additional functions come this spring. Instead of having advisors sign a course request forms before registration, they will have "electronic holds" that will prevent students from registering online until they see their advisor. Afterwards, the electronic hold will be lifted, and students will be allowed to register once the appropriate time comes. Also come spring, advisors will be notified by e-mail of all add/drop changes made by their advisees.

Once online course registration begins for all undergraduates begin-

ning in April, priority will continue to be based on a seniority system with the older classes having the first opportunities to register. Registering will occur in real-time as well, so as soon as a student signs up for a class they will find out whether they got in or whether it is already full. Then, they can make modifications accordingly. Incoming freshmen will similarly be able to register for their first courses over the Web during the summer. The courses will then subsequently be reviewed and approved by academic advisors.

Though the online add/drop system has many advantages, some students still use the written forms when it comes to classes that have reached their limit and professors are willing to allow additional students to enter.

"Sometimes you can't get into a class on the Internet but a professor will let you in," said junior Dave Weishaus. "I just got a slip and did things the manual way. He still used the student Web services for other needs. I definitely looked up my grades there and also had an official transcript sent to my home, which was really convenient," he said.

Freshman Chris Bullwinkle agreed. "It was helpful for classes that were open but there were a lot of cases where you had to do it through the professor, like switching sections," he said.

Freshman Rani Sen thinks the ability to switch sections over the Internet is important. "You should definitely be able to switch foreign language sections

online, which I couldn't do," she said.

Assistant Registrar for Information Systems Craig Smith says he knows the system can not do everything. "There's still a lot of leeway for instructors. Waitlists are given to professors and they can decide whether they want to raise the limit of their classes," he said. The Registrar's office is also working to automate other obstacles to registration, like required permission required.

Other students had an issue with the limited time the system was up, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. "The narrow times are really annoying. They should just open it up for 24 hours," said sophomore Landon Unninyar. Schaedel explained, however, that the mainframe must be used for many other administrative operations at night, when different reports and checks are run by all parts of the University.

The current software is just a temporary solution until the school is able to implement the Exeter Student Suite Software, which will allow different student services to share information across their divisions.

"We will have a new student suite system that will tie together many offices, including admissions, financial aid, student accounts, and the registrar's office," explained Smith. The Exeter System is currently used by schools such as the University of Chicago, Rice University, the California Institute of Technology and the University of Arizona.



Daily Specials

Mondays: 25 cent wings

Tuesdays: 50 cent tacos

Wednesdays: 1/2 price Burgers

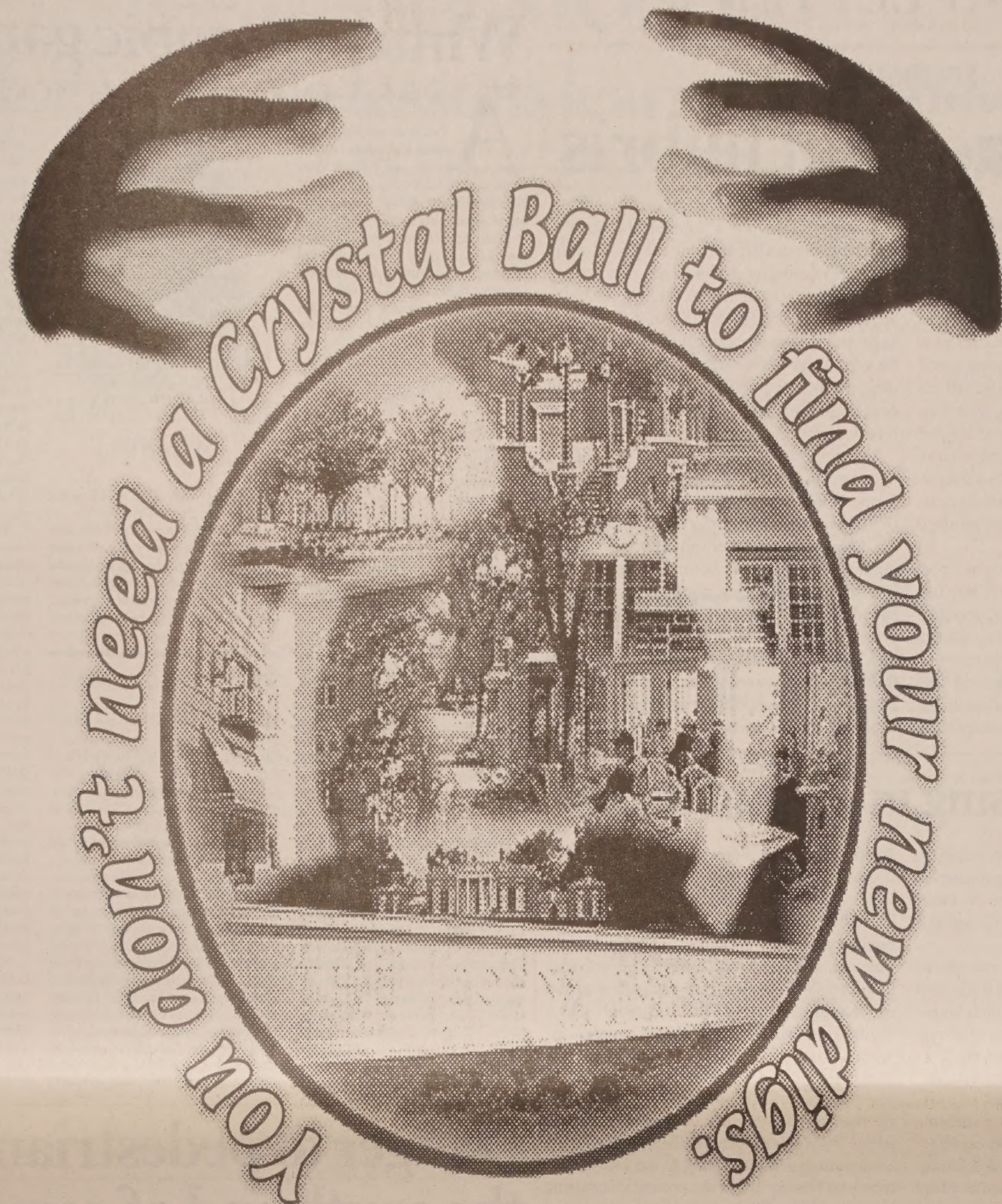
Thursdays: 1/2 lb. shrimp - \$4.95

Sundays: 16" pizza - \$7.00

Tuesdays and Thursdays:

D. J. from 10pm til 1:30am

Kitchen open daily til 1am!!



2002-2003 Upperclass and Off-Campus Room Selection Process

Wednesday, February 20
Upperclass Room Selection and Off-Campus Housing Information Session
 6:00 p.m., McCoy Multipurpose Room

Tuesday, March 5
Upperclass Priority Number Notification
 Posting of apartment availability list
 Wolman Terrace level

Thursday, March 7
On-Site Apartment Building Tours of Homewood
 4:00pm-6:00pm,
 Meet in the Wolman Lobby

Wednesday, February 20 –
 Tuesday, February 26
Upperclass Room Selection Registration
 Wolman Housing Office

Wednesday, March 6th
"On Your Own Fair"
 Area apartment managers, landlords, and local vendors will be on site to provide information on off-campus housing options and answer questions about making the transition from campus living to community living. All sophomores are encouraged to attend.
 11am-2pm in the Glass Pavilion

Tuesday, March 12
Room Selection/Contract Signing
 7:00 p.m., AMRI Multipurpose Room

Thursday, February 21 -
 Tuesday, March 12
On-Line Apartment Tours of Homewood



JOHNS HOPKINS
 UNIVERSITY

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

EDITORIAL

Democracy, not hubris

Two prominent student organizations have put ideas before the student body this week, and the contrast between their methods is interesting indeed. Next Wednesday, the Class Gift Committee will present the senior class with three possible gifts to give the school. The members of the class will vote, and the result of that vote will indicate to the community the direction in which they will expend their gift-generating efforts for the remainder of the semester. Sound simple? That's because it is. Not that we're trying to make light of the committee's work, but it's a simple, democratic process that will ensure that the gift is representative of what the senior class wants to leave to the school.

On the other hand, there is the proposal presented to the Student Council by JHUnity this Tuesday. In a detailed report running about 14 pages, JHUnity outlined its plan for an "African and African-American Studies Department," down to the number of professors it should have and the topics it should cover. Call us cynical, but the document strikes us as a bit presumptuous.

Even leaving aside for a moment the dubious necessity of such a department, the presentation of a prefabricated model for its setup by a group of activists smacks of hubris. While some of the member groups of JHUnity (SLAC, for example) have made a habit of making inflated demands to the administration in order to get a point across, simply walking up and asking for a department devoted to a particular subset of American culture is another thing entirely.

Lest we be accused of Eurocentrism, insensitivity or any other such evil, let us reiterate our support for the Comparative American Cultures (CAC) program, allowing as it does for the study of a diverse range of American cultures. Whether it remains a program or becomes a department, it retains its importance, not least because of its broad-based appeal. It should be well-funded, well-directed and well-supported by the University. The creation of a new, exclusive department for the study of one culture (or set of cultures) in response to a largely illusory demand in that area is not the answer, and neither is activist hubris.

Faculty advising in need of review

Now that seniors have had the opportunity to test the online registration system, the Registrar's office intends to make it available for the entire Homewood student body for Fall 2002 registration.

The University's efforts to create one, all-encompassing online home page for its students is commendable. It may have taken much longer than anticipated, but the current system is both user-friendly and informative, albeit temporary until the Exeter system is implemented. The University's decision to begin the task of combining all servers and, thus, allowing students from all Johns Hopkins divisions to access information their personal school-related information and information about other students makes the system practical.

With the new system, Homewood students can access their grades, schedules, personal information and register for classes without having to trek across campus to the Registrar's office. In the convenience of their homes, students can type in a few numbers, submit their dream schedules and obtain immediate response about their enrollment status in various classes.

While the online registration system seeks to alleviate long waits and unnecessary trips to the Registrar's office, it treads dangerously upon lessening contact between students and their advisors. As it stands, it is rare for students and their faculty advisors to have significant contact in terms of advising. Most students seek their advisors only during the registration period, when faculty members usually glance over a piece of paper and sign it; this all occurs in a time span no

greater than two minutes.

The students are at fault for failing to seek their faculty advisors during the year, but the problem lies in the faculty members and the lack of effort on their part to fulfill the role of advisor to their students. In the Political Science Department, for example, there are two graduate students who handle undergraduate registration. Thus, the department has made it unnecessary for students to ever talk to, let alone seek advice from, their appointed faculty advisors. It should be the advisors responsibility to make time to encourage their advisees to seek academically-related advice from them. After all, being a student is hard enough without having to feel like that famous Art History or Physics professor is wasting his or her time talking to you.

Somehow, Hopkins needs to find a way to make students feel comfortable approaching their advisors and to strongly encourage faculty members to devote time to their students, not just their research. The University needs to consider ways to increase student-faculty interactions. The green forms were a first step towards forcing students to seek advice. And while the forms were generally perceived to be an inconvenience, they did serve their purpose, which was to alert students to the academic paths open to them and ensure that they fulfill graduation requirements.

So while we generally applaud the online registration efforts and the direction in which the University is moving with this effort, we ask administrators to pause and consider the effects they may have on already dwindling faculty-student relations.

Security has gotten very lax at LAX

Since mid-September, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has mandated that airline security be improved at all airports within the United States. Unfortunately, since the end of the holiday season, airline security has become less stingy in its prevention methods. Three weeks ago, I managed to pass security at Los Angeles International Airport without being patted down, searched or having to walk through a metal detector. How did I do it? In a wheel chair.

Due to a freak accident, I spent the latter half of my Intersession on crutches. A legitimate excuse for a wheelchair, but how did they know for sure? My father, a thick-accented Israeli with olive skin and dark hair, was allowed to accompany me to the restricted boarding area reserved only for ticketed passengers. Needless to say, he had no ticket. I am not for racial profiling, but how could he not arouse the slightest bit of suspicion?

Upon arriving at the security checkpoint, I was wheeled through an alternate entrance — no checks,

nothing. Aside from my almost-healed foot and ankle, I had no trouble walking without my crutches and I could have easily gone through the metal detector. I could have been scanned with a metal detecting wand. I could have been patted down. But instead, I was simply wheeled through. I was not asked to remove my jacket. I had bypassed security. Now how hard would it be for a terrorist to do the same?

There are so many "What if?" scenarios. What if I had a bomb strapped to me? What if I had carried a gun onboard? What if I had hijacked the plane? The possible scenarios are endless.

My experience has serious implications for our national airline security. Security standards should not be loosened for those who appear to be physically disabled or injured. It is not too hard to feign an injury: The airport had no proof that I really was hurt. All arrangements for wheelchairs should be accompanied by a doctor's note and some form of proof of the passenger's condition. All passengers should be subject to

metal detectors and other security precautions. An apparent disability should not be taken lightly, although alternative security methods should be used in their case.

It is inexcusable for any airline to allow such carelessness to occur under their supervision. Will it take another act of terror for us to realize this security flaw? I do not want to find out. Airline companies and the FAA must fix the problem before it starts.

RONDEMETER THE BOTTOM LINE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Diversity article well-written, accurate

To the Editor:

Charbel Barakat's article on the evolution of diversity at Hopkins ("JHU's diversity resulted from long struggle," Feb. 7, 2002) shed a lot of light on the school's present-day difficulties. When the school emerged from the racial dark ages such a rela-

Some thoughts on the 2002 Winter Olympic games

After countless commercials and tons of hype, the Olympic torch finally made it to Salt Lake City, Utah last Friday. And thus, eight years after the Tonya Harding/Nancy Kerrigan debacle, the controversies begin anew.

It all started a few years back when news came out that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) took bribes to bring the Winter Games to Utah. A large news story and several resignations later, it all blew under the table and I bet you didn't even remember it until right now when I brought it up.

Next was the decision over whether or not the U.S. team could walk under the World Trade Center flag. The IOC didn't think it was a good idea. After much protest and complaint, the flag was allowed for use in opening ceremonies.

Finally, in pairs figure skating, the controversy over who gets the gold — Russia or Canada. The judges found for Russia. Everyone else in the world (this writer included), felt Canada should have won it. There is currently an investigation underway to see whether or not Russia, France and a few other small little countries were in on some conspiracy to keep Russia's legacy of winning the gold in pairs skating going. However, the current decision is to keep the medals as they stand: Russia gets the gold, Canada gets the silver. And they say the Russian empire fell.

Now, onto some related, but also totally random notes.

The U.S. won all three medals in the half-pipe (snowboarding). As we all know, snow boarding is a sport made-up in the United States. At least one of the medal winners is currently 19. The others, if memory serves me correctly, are around that age as well. This means that these new Olympic champions were the ones skateboarding in parking lots in the early to mid-1990s. You know the ones I'm talking about. They thought they were cool as shit. They're the ones who started the horrible baggy pants fashion. They smoked a lot of pot and (probably)



MICHELLE FENSTER

DELIBERATELY RANDOM

other drugs. They were probably the ones sniffing glue in kindergarten. So, congratulations America. Your new heroes are the same ones who you shoed off your school grounds and front porches and called losers. Don't you love the irony in that? I bet these guys can't wait to go back home and

[H]ow does one wake up in the morning and decide he is going to learn how to luge?

shove their medals in front of all the "adult" noses in their towns.

The other night, in a rare moment of T.V. watching, I found myself in front of the Winter Olympics. Now, before I continue, let me just remind you all, my loyal readers: I'm from southern California. I'll be the first to admit that I am not all that familiar with the concept of snow and cold. However, how does one wake up in the morning and decide he is going to learn how to luge? Or curl, for that matter. These are such random sports.

Danger to pedestrians near the south end of campus

I was nearly hit by a car walking to class today. However, this isn't anything unusual: I live southeast of campus, my classes are on the lower quad and crossing the Charles St.-Art Museum Dr. intersection is a brush with death nearly every time.

As an upperclassman who frequents the southern corner of campus, there really is no way around it. That intersection separates me from almost any on-campus destination I may have: the News-Letter office, the Mattin Center and class via the Sculpture Garden.

This isn't just about me, either. As anyone who lives in the Homewood, or the Dell house, or the Gilman, or one of dozens of row houses understands, cars in Charles Village just don't slow down for pedestrians. In fact, I swear they accelerate.

Okay, that last bit is an unsubstantiated opinion on my part, but the fact remains that being a pedestrian is dangerous. Most of the more heavily used thoroughfares in Charles Village have a traffic light every block or two to level the playing field. The cars have to stop, and we can cross the street safely.

But this doesn't work at the corner of Art Museum and the southbound Charles St. service lane. While cars turning from Art Museum onto N. Charles St. or continuing straight south on Charles St. stop for lights, cars turning from S. Charles St. onto Art Museum Dr. don't stop for anything — there's no light, no stop sign and no reason to stop.

Herein lies the problem. Crossing the street involves dodging cars, most of whom are speeding, and getting to class alive is feeling more and more like a game of Russian Roulette. I've been hit by a car twice in my life already (unrelated incidents), and I don't know how much longer my luck can hold.

But seriously, that little region of campus can be made safer, and it

LIZ STEINBERG HOPKINS CHIC

wouldn't be too hard. All it would take is something on the part of Baltimore City Transit and Traffic — an extra traffic light, a stop sign or even a yield sign. Granted, people run all of the above, but most are more inclined to slow down first. And some people even obey the traffic laws.

Sgt. Richard LeBrun, a Johns Hopkins University Security officer, suggests even installing a sign a few yards before the corner warning cars to yield to pedestrians. This way, Northern District Police would have something more to enforce.

Now, don't get me wrong — lugging looks like a lot of fun. Kind of like a gigantic waterslide, but on ice. This does not mean I understand how one gets the urge to learn how to do it in the first place. And curling just looks strange. I remember watching it with my grandfather once, many many years ago. I thought it a very odd phenomenon then, too. All you're doing is sweeping a gigantic stone down the ice. Did some janitors of yore come up with this in some sort of penis-envy-type competition? It's the only explanation I'm able to come up with.

Then we come to Picabo Street. What a disappointment she turned out to be. How does one go from a medal contender and former Olympic champion to coming in 16th place? But I'll stop there. She must feel bad enough already. At least she has those Chapstick commercials.

Finally, that little girl in the figure skating pairs. She's from some small country that I believe used to be a part of the Soviet Union. No, I don't remember her name and I am currently too lazy to look it up, but she's been skating with a broken foot — actually, she has two breaks. And it's in her right foot. She told reporters that she isn't wearing a cast because then her foot wouldn't fit into her boot. Now, that's dedication. I absolutely admire her desire to skate in the Olympics; however, doesn't she realize that she is probably going to do so much damage to her foot by landing on it while jumping (you could see the pain in her face the other day while she was skating) and performing that she is probably ending her career right now? Why not sit this year out, get better and come back in four years stronger than ever? No one would have looked down upon her.

You see, this is why I never made it in the Olympics. Yeah, I danced for 16 years, but I never had that competitive drive. I wanted to win, but it didn't kill me if I came in second, third or 10th. I just wanted to have fun. Good luck to all the Olympic contenders, and go Team USA!

So the problem is not without solutions. The danger can be mitigated, even if not completely solved. However, it should not be ignored.

Will I continue to get to class alive? Probably. I'm pretty cautious. However, that corner poses an unneces-

Crossing the street involves dodging cars, most of whom are speeding, and getting to class alive is feeling more and more like a game of Russian Roulette.

sary risk to every person who attempts to cross it. That's just not necessary. All it may take is one little sign, but that sign just might wind up saving a life.

I think it's worth it.

Do you have something to say?

Send us a letter.

LETTERS POLICY

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 250 words. Letters must be delivered to the Gatehouse by Tuesday at 7 p.m. or emailed to News.Letter@jhu.edu for inclusion in that Thursday's issue. All letters received become property of the News-Letter and cannot be returned. The News-Letter reserves the right to edit for space, grammar, and clarity. Letters must include the name, address and telephone number of the author. Letters credited only to organizations will not be printed. The News-Letter reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

OPINIONS

With the exception of editorials, the opinions expressed here are those of the contributors. They are not necessarily those of The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.

A look forward: No lessons learned

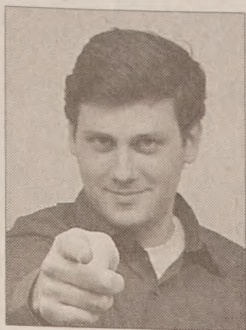
This just in: Taxes are used to fund the operations of government that would not be possible without them.

This may come as a shock to some reflexive anti-tax conservatives, who see taxes as nothing more than a burden on the people that must be lifted at any cost, no matter what the situation. This line of thought is best exemplified in the logic with which President Bush justified his \$1.35 trillion tax cut last year. When the economy was growing, he said that a cut was needed to keep the economy strong. When it became clear that the economy was contracting, Bush said that a tax cut, *the same exact tax cut*, was needed to boost the economy. When the California energy crisis hit, Bush said that the tax cut, *once again completely unmodified to fit the situation*, was needed to help people pay higher energy bills. The question changed, but the answer was always the same.

Now, we see this logic challenged on the state level, in a series of budget crises that might be instructive on the national level.

During the last recession, many states faced large budget deficits that threatened vital programs which were popular among voters. However, unlike the federal government, the vast majority of states are required to balance their budgets, so simply running deficits was out of the question. As anyone who has ever had to feed and house themselves can tell you, when you are consistently short of money, you have two options: increase revenue or decrease spending. In the early 1990s, many governors chose to do some of both. Along with cutting some programs, many governors and state legislators increased income taxes, including former governors Jim Florio of New Jersey, Robert Casey of Pennsylvania and Lowell Weicker of Connecticut, all of whom could be considered moderates on most policy issues. On the national level, Presidents George W. Bush and Bill Clinton raised taxes as well.

The result was two-fold. On the fiscal side, the tax increases returned budgets to balance. Politically, the



CHARLES DONEFER

WE'RE LEFT, THEY'RE WRONG

result was a sustained rage on the part of voters. Florio was voted out in 1993. According to an article in *The Washington Post* of Feb. 10, Weicker was the target of protests, in which protesters burned him in effigy. Bush was voted out for breaking his "no new taxes" pledge and Clinton's tax policy was partly to blame for the Republican takeover of Congress in 1994.

With the tax-raisers out of office, new Governors entered office with their states in good shape. Despite the dire warnings by conservative economists that tax increases would inhibit growth, the economy was very strong as well. While the federal government did go into surplus for the first time in decades, state governments did even better, mostly because state governments derive more of their revenue from volatile sources such as sales taxes. (Think about it: Although some people lose their jobs during a recession, many more people cut back on spending, creating a greater dip in sales tax revenues than in income tax receipts.)

Thus, with all signs pointing up, governors were now free to cut taxes while increasing services. Many Republican governors, such as Christie Whitman of New Jersey and Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin, were hailed as geniuses for their fiscal prudence and shrewd management skills while

in fact, the good economy made it possible for them to avoid the inevitable trade-off between taxes and spending. People soon got the idea that cutting taxes did not require any hard choices.

Well, there's nothing like a recession to make hard choices evident. Since the economy turned south, the states, over-reliant on sales taxes as they are, are faring even worse than the federal government, which is fighting a war.

California, stuck with expensive long-term energy contracts, has a \$12.5-billion deficit. Tennessee, which doesn't have an income tax, also came up short. Governor Don Sundquist, (R), had a choice to make and came up with a reasonable solution. Sales taxes in his state were already some of the highest in the nation, high enough in fact that many people who lived close to the state's borders were crossing into neighboring states to shop. In addition, the sales tax is regressive, meaning that the poor are more affected than the rich, since a larger portion of their income is spent on goods subject to the sales tax. Governor Sundquist decided that it would be best for the state to cut the sales tax and institute a flat income tax of 3.75 percent, with exceptions for low-income taxpayers. Revenues would meet costs, the system would be made more fair and would be less subject to wild fluctuations in revenue at the same time. Sounds reasonable, right?

Not to Tennesseans. On July 12, two right-wing radio talk show hosts propagated a rumor that the State Legislature was concocting a secret income tax plan. Within hours, an angry mob showed up at the state Capitol, throwing rocks and breaking Governor Sundquist's window, according to an article in *The Washington Post* of Aug. 10. One wonders how many of those protesters would have actually paid less in taxes if Sundquist's plan had been enacted.

Cowed into submission by the angry group, the legislature passed a budget without an income tax, which was vetoed by Sundquist but enacted by a veto override. The Legislature's plan spends \$560 million from the

state's tobacco settlement on general expenses, even though the settlement was supposed to be for the increased costs that smoking imposed on Medicare. The fund is now depleted and cannot be used in this manner indefinitely.

In August, budget problems caused schools to open late in some counties. All throughout Tennessee, parks are closed because the state cannot afford to keep them open. All of this is because people don't notice paying a few cents in sales tax every time they make a purchase as much as they notice filling out a two-page form once a year.

To a lesser extent, many other states are facing the same problems as Tennessee. Some will raise taxes while others will cut popular services. Governors of the states that had to make the hardest decisions will most likely be voted out at the next opportunity,

[T]wo right-wing radio talk show hosts propagated a rumor that the State Legislature was concocting a secret income tax plan. Within hours, an angry mob showed up at the state Capitol, throwing rocks and breaking Governor Sundquist's window.

replaced by Governors who, thanks to their predecessor's work and the natural ebbs and flows of the economy, won't have to make choices.

The main lessons of the deficit-and-surplus cycle are these: First, as the tax increases of the early 1990s show, the effect of small tax increases is much less than conservative ideologies and Laffer-curve devotees would have you believe. Second, sales taxes are not only unfair — they are a bad way for a state to raise funds. Third, voters have a very short memory and are unable to put two and two together, especially if the issues involved are shamelessly demagogued for political advantage.

The cycle will begin anew when the the economy turns up and nothing will have been learned.

A tribute to all the fraternity pledges

The world is about to change for the better. First, there was the Segway, the personal transportation device that will someday eradicate the sad, laborious task of walking. Then there was the P'zone, which is not only a scrumptious calzone-like delicacy but has also saved Tommy Davidson's career. And just recently there was mlife, a technological feat

of which we all have a keen understanding thanks to AT&T's recent advertising campaign. But this semester, the greatest breakthrough since last spring will arrive in all its glory.

Fear not, children. The pledges will soon be here! For it is the pledge that keeps the Hopkins machine running hiccup-free. Pledges are the Oxi Clean of university life; they are the Epil-Stop & Spray for college's unsightly back hair. In the words of the Juice Man, pledges are "the vital nutrients, the life force" of our campus.

Not that my fraternity has pledges, I can assure you of that fact. But if what I have heard through the proverbial grapevine is true, certainly many of us would die — yes, die — without the aid of the loyal pledge. Perhaps you've heard the tale too, then. For it is during the pledging semester that fraternity members almost universally fall victim to a horrible plague that dramatically weakens one's ability to go down to Uni-Mini to get a sandwich. Men in fraternities (excepting my fraternity, needless to say) are sometimes stricken with bouts of severe prune fingers and are thus unable to wash dishes for months at a time. The sense of smell is heightened to canine proportions, and the simple task of taking out the garbage becomes an impossibility due to the newfound, unbearable stench associated with the chore. Arm muscles can become so atrophied that the job of cleaning the bathroom may go undone for many weeks. I have even heard stories of men who become so badly crippled by this annual disease that they momentarily lose the function in their thumbs that allows for changing the television channel.

This awful and vile sickness, which I have termed Fraternity Paralysis Syndrome (FPS), could even be terminal if not treated immediately. It is a miracle, then, that these near-helpless fraternity men are able to pick up the phone and call upon the assistance of the dependable pledge. Oftentimes, the pledge arrives in a matter of moments to assist the feeble caller and perform the necessary task.

It is the humble, unassuming pledge that keeps these poor souls alive.

Sadly, there is some confusion on this and other campuses. People seem to be under the erroneous assumption that pledges are taken advantage of and literally forced to perform menial tasks for lazy, yet otherwise capable, college boys. Somehow, there exists the offensive belief that fraternity men view pledges as subhuman, yet this could not be

further from the truth. Some people are even convinced that pledges are the target of sadistic fraternity practices called "hazing." This notion is completely and incontrovertibly false. FPS is very real, and the symptoms of this wretched pestilence are obviously quite acute.

It is time for people around this great country to fully appreciate how valuable the pledge is to our national well-being. It is time that the brave exploits of the pledge are let known. It is time to vindicate both the pledge and the fraternities and prove to the world that the image of the pledge will not be tarnished.

The pledge is never a victim of unbridled disdain. Not once has a pledge been tied up with string and forced to sing "I'm A Little Teapot" while spinning around in the shower with the water running. Never have pledges stood outside on the balcony of the Blackstone and danced the Macarena. Not once has a fraternity member asked a pledge to pose as a homeless man and sit outside of Royal

The pledge is a respected, reliable and robust young man that would never be taken advantage of.

Farms asking for change. Whatever rumors you have heard to the contrary are damn lies!

The pledge is a respected, reliable and robust young man that would never be taken advantage of. The pledge is an integral and irreplaceable component of fraternity life. He is essential, and he is the savior of fraternity men across this glorious nation. The pledge is a fine example of all that is great in mankind; he is a model for us all. Pledge, I salute thee!

Signatures make a difference in downtown labor strikes

No Justice, No Peace!" and, "What do we want? A Living Wage! When do we want it? Now!" were the rallying cries for picketing janitors outside the Candler building in downtown Baltimore this fall. These protesters and their chanting were part of an ongoing movement by the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) who have been fighting a campaign entitled "Justice for Janitors" since the mid-1990s. Through the persistence and hard work of janitorial workers and union organizers, low-wage employees in Los Angeles, Las Vegas and other urban areas have realized incredible victories that ushered in living wages, health care, job security and pensions. This past summer the "Justice for Janitors" campaign arrived in Baltimore. Contracted janitors working for Metropolitan Maintenance and Broadway Services, Inc. (which is owned by the Johns Hopkins Institution) got fed up working for a minimum wage on a job that provided meager health care benefits — they went on strike.

The Johns Hopkins Student Labor Action Committee (SLAC) joined the striking workers on the picket lines and offered support because of a firm belief that every worker deserves a wage that they can live off of, support their family and build for the future — a Living Wage. We also joined the worker's fight, alongside their union SEIU, because the Candler Building — one of the buildings where the janitors were striking — has two floors leased by the Hopkins School of Public Health. Once again, Johns Hopkins was supporting the unjust labor practices of Metropolitan Maintenance and Broadway Services. Moreover, by renting this space, the Johns Hopkins Institution was in violation of its pledge to provide a wage of \$7.75 to all employees, direct or subcontracted, at all Hopkins locations.

Last semester, SLAC brought this matter to the attention of the Hopkins community, which responded with overwhelming energy. In just a few weeks, over one thousand Hopkins students, faculty and employees

signed a petition pledging their support for the striking janitors. On behalf of the workers, SEIU and SLAC, we thank everyone who signed the petition. For anyone who believes that a few signatures cannot build power or change lives, the rest of the striking

GIDEON MANN GUEST EDITORIAL

workers' story proves otherwise.

On Dec. 4, 2001, a committee of SLAC representatives comprised of students, faculty, alumni and community leaders met with the Hopkins administration. At the meeting the SLAC committee presented the petition to the Administration and demanded that action be taken by Johns Hopkins to ensure that the striking workers could form a union and receive a Living Wage. Although hesitant to act upon this demand, the Administration agreed to "look into the matter" by contacting the Candler building owner, Boston Properties — the largest real estate property owner in the country. The Administration expressed surprise that so many signatures had been collected in such a short time and were moved to act because of the overwhelming support. The petition gave considerable power because the Administration understood that the Homewood campus supported the striking janitors at the Candler building.

In the middle of January, the dominoes began to tumble. Boston Properties severed its cleaning contract with Metropolitan Maintenance and kicked them out of the Candler building. This occurred at the very same time that the Hopkins administration was inquiring about the matter with Boston Properties. Was it a coincidence that the contract was severed while Hopkins was asking questions of its leasing agent? We don't think so. In fact, SEIU openly recognized the power and pressure that SLAC had brought to bear on the Administration to take action. After

severing the contract with Metropolitan Maintenance, Boston Properties hired Redcoats Cleaning Company to clean the Candler building and Redcoats agreed to recognize the union. Jarred by loosing their biggest business, Metropolitan Maintenance agreed to recognize the union and provide better wages at all of its locations in the downtown district of Baltimore. In one fell swoop, 72 percent of all janitors in downtown Baltimore gained the ability to unionize and bargain for improved working conditions and wages. The janitors are currently in the process of voting on and ratifying union representation. The Hopkins community has once again reaffirmed its support for fair living wages and its commitment to social justice. Our voice — YOUR voice — has been heard.

This victory in downtown Baltimore is but a small step towards fair pay for all Baltimore workers and Hopkins employees. The Johns Hopkins Institutions, though it acknowledges the importance of a Living Wage, will not ensure that its workers are always paid a Living Wage defined by the Baltimore Living Wage Ordinance (currently \$8.20 an hour). With an increase in the cost of living, what constitutes a Living Wage must increase correspondingly or else the community members who work alongside us will once again slip into poverty. Adrift in an age of apathy, we have here in this place at this moment the opportunity to take a giant leap towards a healthy, strong, just society. As evidenced by the Candler building campaign, Hopkins students have considerable power that, when organized, can result in incredible victories for hard-working, low-wage employees whose services we too often take for granted. Our struggle continues and we are motivated because our fight is not just about numbers and wages, it is about lives, families, and the overall welfare of this city. For more information, visit our Website: <http://slac.members.easyspace.com>. Eric Leslie contributed to this article. Both are members of the Student Labor Action Committee.

Russian skating gold ridiculous

BY ERIN BRACHLOW
THE PITTS NEWS (U. PITTSBURGH)

(U-WIRE) Pittsburgh, Pa. — I was sitting on a dirty couch at a Carnegie Mellon University fraternity house, watching the Olympics and crying. Although this outpouring of emotion is not rare for me, my tears were not tears of joy, but tears of sadness.

On Monday night, the Russian and Canadian figure skating pairs faced off for the gold medal and instead of being a night where the best pair won, it turned into a night filled with controversy and heartbreak.

Russians Anton Sikharulidze and Elena Berezhnaya skated first. Not really being familiar with either pair, I was rooting for everybody. So when Sikharulidze failed to land a jump, I felt bad for them because the gold was now out of reach. Or so I thought.

Canadian pair Jamie Sale and David Pelletier came on the ice next and skated a perfect performance. After they were done, everyone watching — the announcers, the crowd and even I — couldn't help but be on their side. They were a young and heartfelt couple and had just skated to gold...

But not if the judges had anything to say about it.

The nine judges decided that a team that made more mistakes and a country that won the gold medal in this event in the last 10 Winter Olympics should win instead.

How could this happen?

In the sport, judges give each pair a mark between zero and 6.0 for both technical merit — execution of elements such as jumps and throws — and for presentation — choreography. Then they rank the pair, in this case, either in first or second place, based on their own feelings about where the pair should place. The pair with the most first place votes gets the gold medal, regardless of what the marks were.

In Monday's event, using the marks for technical merit and presentation alone, Sale and Pelletier won by .05 points. But when the ranks appeared on the screen, the Russians received five first place votes — one more than their opponents — so the Canadians were stuck with silver.

As I listened to the NBC announcers say, "This will be debated forever" and "Yet another figure skating judging controversy," I couldn't believe this kind of thing happens all the time.

Suspiciously, a *Detroit Free Press* article about the 1998 games in Nagano, Japan, noted that Sikharulidze and Berezhnaya received a controversial medal in those games as well. They fell twice during their program and, according to commentator Sandra Bezic, "Weren't on that particular night, but were given a gift because of their talent."

Well, they got their gift in Nagano and didn't deserve another one in Salt Lake City. Mistakes are mistakes

— if a judge doesn't use them as determining factors in giving out the most sought-after medals in the world, then what else can we assume but conspiracy?

Suspicion of judge collaboration and bias has been thrown around for years. There have been several suggestions to change the scoring system, including a simple plan to make the judges anonymous and not outwardly affiliated with a specific country.

Judging this sport is not easy: Each judge had to detect errors, make deductions and identify differences in each pair's technical and artistic performance, all in a 280-second program. I realize that they carry a heavy burden and that an audience cannot accurately determine who should win. But when you watch two people skate perfectly and then two people who didn't, the job doesn't seem too tough.

The International Skating Union launched an inquiry into the judging to make sure the judges followed the rules. This may give clarity to the situation, but satisfaction will only come with the gold in the hands of the Canadians.

But a belated "Oops, sorry" medal switch doesn't seem like any way to win in the Olympics.

And turning on the television on to see Jamie Sale crying on the medal stand and to hear David Pelletier consider quitting his sport — both trying to grasp that somehow their best wasn't good enough — is just no way to watch the Olympics.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Fever after surgery may be sign of complications that damage brain

BY JONATHAN GROVER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

For many, the concern upon entering surgery is not the surgery itself, but the aftermath from the procedure. A new study, published in the February issue of *Stroke*, found a correlation between high fevers in the 24 hours following coronary bypass surgery and cognitive problems in the wake of that same surgery.

While it's been long known that bypass patients often experience fever following their surgeries, and bypass patients have also been shown to be vulnerable to brain injury, the two side effects have not been connected, until now.

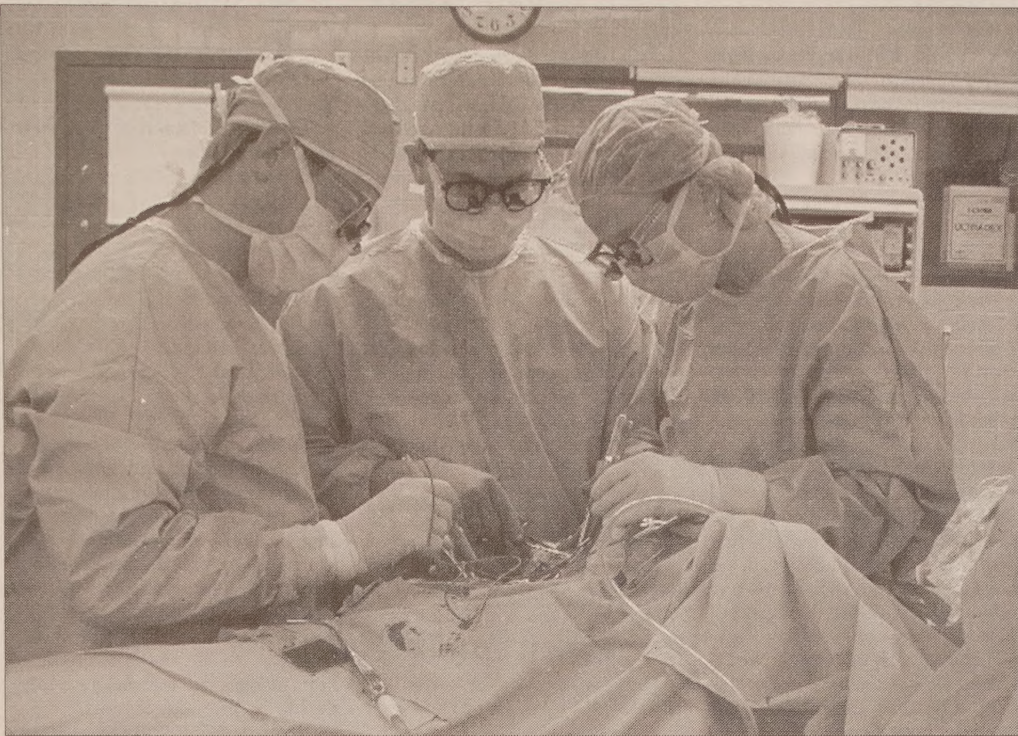
The study, lead by Duke anesthesiologist, Dr. Hilary Grocott, followed 300 patients who were undergoing coronary bypass graft surgery. In this particular form of coronary bypass surgery doctors attempt to improve the patient's blood flow by grafting blood vessels from the leg or chest around the blockages in a patient's arteries. The patients were subsequently monitored for fever for a period of 24 hours following the operation. Additionally, 227 of the patients underwent cognitive testing both before the procedure as well as six weeks afterwards.

It was found that 39 percent of the patients, or 89 out of the 227 that underwent cognitive testing, performed worse on the second test than they did on the first. While examination of the temperature readings could not predict which patients would undergo the greatest mental decline, those patients whose fevers were the highest above normal (as high as 102.7 degrees Fahrenheit) were most likely to experience diminished mental capacity.

While the study cannot say that high temperature is responsible for the mental decline, it does examine some possibilities as to what the cause might be.

One such idea is that small chunks of arterial plaque may find their way to the brain during surgery and diminish the blood supply of neurons. This compounded with the excitatory chemicals that the brain releases in response to fever could be responsible for the problem.

"It's very well known that temperature is a tremendous modulator of brain injury. The lower it is the



COURTESY OF [HTTP://HSC.USF.EDU/SURGERY/VASCULAR](http://hsc.usf.edu/surgery/vascular)
A new study suggests that the severity of a fever experienced after heart surgery may indicate complications.

better, and the more it goes up the worse," according to Grocott.

Nonetheless, that still leaves the following question unanswered: what causes the fever? One of Grocott's theories on the subject is that post-operative fevers are the result of inflammatory reactions which stem from the heart-lung machines utilized during surgery to keep a patient alive. Less significant contributors to the fever may include cutting the breastbone to expose the arteries, as well as the overall stress of surgery.

Nevertheless, Grocott acknowledges that, "we also know that brain injuries themselves may actually lead to increases in body temperature through damage to the hypothalamus."

The study goes a step further to suggest that perhaps waiting for the fever to subside is an improper course of action.

"Maybe we shouldn't just be observing them or ignoring them," says Grocott.

One solution might be to give patients antipyretic drugs, which reduce temperature. Such drugs include Tylenol and Temptra. However, these medications are absorbed by the gas-

tric tract, which often performs poorly after operations. Another approach would be to use special cooling blankets available in virtually every hos-

It's very well known that temperature is a tremendous modulator of brain injury. The lower it is the better, and the more it goes up the worse.

— DR. HILARY GROCCOTT

pital. Perhaps a catheter which cools the blood could be implanted. Grocott is currently planning a follow-up

study to test these possibilities.

Not all scientists are as sure of Dr. Grocott's results as he is himself.

Ola Selnes, a notable neurologist who studies brain injury after surgery at Johns Hopkins University, says the study is "a curious finding."

Essentially, Selnes questions whether fever is a cause or an effect: "you can't really quite tell if it is the elevated temperature itself or is it whatever it was that caused the temperature to go up that is causing" the neurological problems.

Still Selnes notes the link pervious research has made between fever and poor recovery after a heart attack or a stroke. "People have been noticing that after cardiac arrest, if the patient has hyperthermia, the outcome is generally pretty terrible. And with ischemic stroke, fever predicts worse outcomes."

Not everyone, however, is convinced that bypass surgery threatens the brain at all. Dr. Wayne Isom, chairman of cardiothoracic surgery at Weill Medical College of Cornell University in New York City says, "The reports are real, real disturbing... but our data have not found that at all."

SCIENCE BRIEFS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Study: Viagra doesn't harm heart patients

A study that had patients bicycling on their backs to simulate the rigors of sex suggests that many men with heart disease can safely take Viagra.

Fears about the effects of the impotence drug on heart patients have been stirred by reports of more than 100 heart attacks and deaths among users.

The latest study bolsters previous research showing that Viagra is unlikely to cause problems in heart patients who do not have severe disease and are not taking nitrate drugs.

Unlike some of the previous studies, the current research was not funded by Viagra's manufacturer. It was conducted through grants from the Mayo Foundation and the American Heart Association.

In 1999, the American Heart Association and American College of Cardiology said Viagra should not be used by the estimated 5.5 million U.S. heart patients taking nitrates for angina or chest pain, because of the risk of a dangerous drop in blood pressure. The organizations also recommended caution in prescribing Viagra for patients whose heart disease includes ischemia or insufficient oxygen to the heart.

The study had 105 men age 66 on average perform the exercise test twice, at least a day apart: once after taking Viagra and again after taking a dummy pill.

Most men developed ischemia during both tests, but Viagra did not increase the risk of ischemia, it did not worsen it and the condition was not severe or harmful, said Dr. Patricia Pellicka, a Mayo Clinic cardiologist.

Viagra "had no adverse effect on symptoms or how long the men were able to exercise," she said.

The results appear in Wednesday's Journal of the American Medical Association.

The participants had diagnosed or suspected heart disease. Those on long-acting nitrates stopped taking them at least three days before the study. None of men had had significant rhythm disturbances, congestive heart failure or a heart attack within a month of the study.

The study is the first to examine Viagra's effects on the heart by using an exercise stress test that includes echocardiography, an ultrasound technique that shows images of the heart and its valves in action, Pellicka said. Having men cycle on their backs allowed for better imaging, she said.

Men bicycled for an average of 7.4 minutes, peddling against progressively increasing resistance.

"This study will go a long way toward making (heart) patients and physicians more comfortable with using" Viagra, Pellicka said.

Still, the researchers said heart patients who want to take Viagra should see their doctors and perhaps undergo a similar exercise test.

American Heart Association spokesman Barry Franklin said the study "shows that in a select group of men Viagra doesn't worsen the response to maximum exercise." However, he noted that researchers did not follow the men to see whether Viagra might be linked to heart problems later on.

American shows signs of increased birth rate

American women, encouraged by a decade-long economic boom, are having more children than at any other time in the past three decades — 2.1 on average in a lifetime, the government said Tuesday.

For the first time since 1971, women are producing enough children to offset deaths in the United States, the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) said.

The center reported 4,058,814 births in 2000, the latest year for which figures were available — up 2.5 percent from 1999. It was the first time since 1993 that births topped 4 million.

Researchers said the roaring economy of the 1990s was probably a major factor, helping potential parents feel more comfortable about supporting a family.

"Their financial security was increasing, and they could afford additional children. And then we had this continuing increase in postponed childbearing," NCHS demographer Stephanie Ventura said.

The national birth total breaks down to an average of 2.13 children for every woman through her child-bearing years of 15 to 49. The government uses 2.1 as the figure necessary for a population to fully replace itself.

The report showed increases in the birth rate in 2000 among women of all age groups except teenagers. Births to 15- to 19-year-olds dropped to 48.5 for every 1,000 women, an all-time low. The teen birth rate was 49.6 in 1999.

"The credit goes to the teens themselves," said Sarah Brown, director of the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. "There are only two ways these rates can go down — less sex and more contraception. There's evidence that these teens are doing both."

Researchers believe the strong economy, coupled with a strong fear of sexually transmitted diseases, probably played a role in cutting teen births, which dropped 22 percent in the decade.

"They could see they should be spending time improving their education and occupational skills, and postponing marriage and childbearing," Ventura said.

The report also found that smoking among pregnant women declined for most age groups, down to 12.2 percent in 2000. That rate has fallen steadily since 1989. The report found 12 percent of babies born to smokers had low birthweight compared with just 7 percent of babies born to non-smokers.

The rate of twins rose slightly, extending a two-decade-long trend.

"Older moms are more likely to have multiple births," said Joyce Martin, a NCHS epidemiologist. "And you have the added whammy of fertility-enhancing therapy, both the drugs and the techniques."

But sets of triplets and higher-order births are on the decline, the report found. Health officials hope that decline means women might be heeding their warnings about fertility procedures, which often produce multiple births that put the children at risk.

Overall, the fertility rate of 2.1 places the United States at the high end of developed nations. The rate is 1.8 in Australia, 1.7 in Britain and just 1.2 in Spain.

New ethics guidelines made for HIV patients

Fertility specialists shouldn't dismiss the idea of helping some HIV-infected parents have children, new ethics guidelines say.

The standards issued Wednesday by the American Society for Reproductive Medicine say therapies now exist that can greatly reduce the risk of passing HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, to the baby.

They do not encourage HIV-infected couples to have children and caution that doctors should ensure parents understand their baby could be infected, regardless of what precautions are taken.

Since 1994, the group's ethics guidelines have discouraged fertility treatment if a potential parent has HIV. The risks of infecting the unborn child were too great.

Today's therapies allow many HIV patients to live longer, healthier lives and most patients are in their prime childbearing years. Special prenatal care can greatly reduce — although not eliminate — the risk of infecting a baby, the society's ethics committee concluded.

An estimated 200 to 300 infants are born with HIV each year, most thought to have been born to mothers improperly tested or treated for HIV, says the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The CDC doesn't say HIV patients should never have children. But "they shouldn't attempt it on their own," stressed Dr. Robert Janssen, the CDC's HIV chief.

"There is always going to be a risk" of passing the deadly virus to the baby, he said. But working with a fertility specialist skilled in HIV can "reduce the risk of transmission to the lowest possible level."

Art Caplan, a bioethicist at the University of Pennsylvania, said the moral implications of HIV-positive parents having children are shifting because of medical advances.

"Morally, I always have a problem if you are creating orphans, but AIDS is slowly moving from a terminal illness to a chronic one," Caplan said. "The new facts demand new thinking. The reality is that you are not

CONTINUED ON PAGE A9

UPCOMING LECTURES AT HOMEWOOD AND JHMI

Thursday, February 14
"Gene regulation and signal transduction in axon guidance in the mouse"
Elke Stein,
Stanford University
Mudd Hall 100, 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 19
"Patterning and Morphogenesis of the Vertebrate Central Nervous System"
Rachel Brewster,
Carnegie Institution of Washington
Mudd Hall 100, 3:30 p.m.

Monday, February 25
"Cellular mechanisms of synaptic plasticity in the mammalian central nervous system"
Hey-Kyoung Lee,
JHMI
Remsen Hall 233, 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 26
"Nuclear receptor control of cholesterol homeostasis"
Dr. David J. Mangelsdorf
Howard Hughes Medical Institute and University of Texas,
Southwestern Medical Center Dept of Pharmacology
The M. Daniel Lane Conference Center
(612 Physiology), 11:45 a.m.

Tuesday, February 26
"Cascade Processes for the Synthesis of Alkaloids"
Professor Albert Padwa,
Emory University
Remsen Hall 233, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 28
"Dorso-ventral patterning in development of mouse spinal cord and brain"
Jonathan Eggenschwiler,
Sloan-Kettering
Mudd Hall 100, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 28
WORKSHOP - WRITING HISTORY ON COMMISSION
Richard G. Hewlett & Kenneth Durr
History Associates, Inc.
Gilman 329, 3 p.m.

Monday, March 4
"Carbon, Nitrogen and Water Cycling in Response to Rising Atmospheric CO2"
Dr. Bruce Hungate,
Biology Dept Northern Arizona Univ
Olin Hall Auditorium, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6
"The Sodium Pump, Past and Future"
Dr. Douglas Fambrough,
Johns Hopkins University
Mudd Hall Auditorium, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 7
"Histone Acetyltransferases: From Structure to Mechanism"
Ronen Marmorstein,
The Wistar Institute
Mudd Hall 100, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 7
"Electrokinetic Microfluidics"
Professor Hsueh-chia Chang
110 Maryland Hall, 11 a.m.

Thursday, March 7
"William Osler, 'An Alabama Student' and Tales from Medical Work"
Steve Stowe, Indiana University
Welch 303, 3 p.m.

Thursday, March 7
"Dynamics of Thermophilic and Mesophilic Cytochromes c: How are Flexibility and Stability Related?"
Professor Kara Bren,
University of Rochester
Remsen Hall 233, 4 p.m.

Monday, March 11
"Molecular Modeling in Environmental Geochemistry"
Dr. James Kubicki,
Dept of Geosciences Pennsylvania State Univ
Olin Hall, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, March 12
"Molecular Architecture at Organic-Inorganic Interfaces"
Professor Robert Hamers,
University of Wisconsin
Remsen Hall 233, 4:15 p.m.

Tuesday, March 14
"Phosphoinositide- and ubiquitin-dependent regulation of membrane sorting and receptor down-regulation"
Scott Emr,
UCSD
Mudd Hall 100, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 28
"Novel soluble glycolipid mimics provide new insights into the pathogenesis of verotoxin and HIV"
Clifford Lingwood,
University of Toronto
Mudd Hall 100, 3:30 p.m.

Hopkins opens center to train surgeons in new minimally-invasive techniques

BY MELISSA HUANG
 THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine has a new addition, the Johns Hopkins/United States Surgical Minimally Invasive Surgical Training Center. U.S. Surgical, a leading manufacturer of laparoscopic technology, funded the center with \$3.5 million. U.S. surgical also sponsors many other similar centers in the United States.

The goal of the new center is to provide training for students, faculty members and physicians with the most advanced equipments for minimally invasive modern surgery. The equipments at the center are donations from Stryker Communications and Steris Corp.

Physicians and researchers of different medical disciplines can investigate the potential of minimally invasive surgery as well as the uses of robotics and telemedicine in surgery.

The center is located in the Blalock Building of Hopkins Hospital and contains two lab training areas, nine operating tables, a brand new conference room, locker rooms and office space

The new center's training program, Continuing Medical Education (CME) courses will include lab demonstrations and lectures to help sharpen the surgical skills of students, residents and faculty and community physicians.

The center co-director Dr. Gregory Bulkley, professor of surgery, commented, "The Hopkins mission is patient care, research and teaching. That's what we're here for. We have always been at the forefront of not only basic science but also applied science. We're going to be doing research in new technology



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.SPINEUNIVERSE.COM/GRAPHICS/TECHNOLOGY](http://www.spineuniverse.com/graphics/technology)

Minimally-invasive surgical techniques greatly help to reduce both health risks to the patient and defer costs.

[for use] in teaching and improvement of patient care. [The center] fits our mission really perfectly. There are certain procedures that you can only learn by doing. You really need a center where you can train people to do this."

The innovative technology at the center hosts robotic devices that perform surgery in miniscale spaces and employ imaging guide techniques, which allow the surgeon to operate with the aid of a three-dimensional image of the area under surgery. Bulkley asserted that the advantages of laparoscopy, minimally invasive surgeries, became popular recently.

He further explained, "It is becoming

clear that more and more things that can be done this way will be done this way, the advantages being that it doesn't hurt as much to have a small incision. No one is predicting that this will replace conventional surgery."

Small incisions can dramatically reduce the recovery time and the unnecessary trauma that the patient suffers through during a conventional surgical procedure.

The idea of creating a center for surgical achievement came up during a Hopkins committee meeting that discussed ways to make the surgery department more efficient.

The center's other co-director,

Dr. Paul W. Flint, professor of otolaryngology and head and neck surgery said, "The mission for the committee was to figure out how we could make the operation rooms more efficient in a teaching or academic environment. The problem in a teaching hospital is that surgery is an opportunity for students to observe and learn, adding to every procedure more costly time and the operating room."

At the new center, students will learn to operate with sophisticated equipment on animals, models, or cadavers. Flint said that Hopkins is unique compared to all other similar centers because of the Hopkins multidisciplinary method.

Physicians from a wide range of disciplines (obstetrics, gastroenterology, interventional radiology and cardiology) can participate in the training and research. Currently, veterinarian Dr. Randy Brown works at the center as a full-time educational director along with two technical staff members.

SCIENCE BRIEFS THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A8
 condemning a child to permanent illness or death."

HIV patients' desire to conceive is "a very difficult decision," said AIDS Action director Marsha Martin.

She applauded the new guidelines. "It at least helps people feel they can walk into the fertility clinics and have a conversation. It encourages the physicians to open up and be available to people living with HIV."

The fertility society's new guidelines say:

—Appropriate drug therapy, a Caesarean section and no breast-feeding drops an HIV-positive pregnant woman's chances of infecting her baby from 20 percent down to about 2 percent — but the risk isn't zero.

—If only the potential father has HIV, both mother and fetus could be infected. Unprotected intercourse is not safe. Special sperm washing and testing before artificial insemination appears to greatly reduce risk, but more proof is needed. Couples should be counseled about considering donor sperm, adoption or not having children.

—If both potential parents have HIV, they must be counseled about the risk of infecting and orphaning a baby.

Many couples at risk for genetic diseases such as cystic fibrosis attempt conception despite a 25 percent chance of having an ill child, the guidelines note. Fertility specialists who treat those couples also "should find it ethically acceptable to treat HIV-positive individuals or couples who are willing to take reasonable steps to minimize the risks of transmission," they say.

Study: Baltimore STD statistics alarming

About one in 12 young adults in Baltimore had untreated gonorrhea or chlamydia, and many were unaware they were infected, according to a new study.

Most of those in the study who were infected did not report any symptoms, prompting the study's authors to recommend changes to improve diagnosis. The number of untreated infections is more than the

number that are diagnosed and treated each year, the researchers reported in Wednesday's Journal of the American Medical Association.

The study was conducted by Charles F. Turner and colleagues at the Research Triangle Institute in Washington. The researchers surveyed 728 adults, ages 18 to 35, and tested urine samples from 579 of them in 1997 and 1998.

About 5.3 percent of those studied were found to have an untreated gonococcal infection, and three percent had an untreated chlamydial infection. About 7.9 percent of the total group is estimated to have either an untreated gonococcal or chlamydial infection, with the rate among black women at 15 percent.

Untreated gonorrhea and chlamydia infections can lead to chronic pelvic pain, infertility, and potentially fatal ectopic pregnancies. The sexually transmitted diseases also increase the chances of transmitting the virus that causes AIDS, the researchers said.

At most health clinics, the two diseases often go undetected because patients don't show symptoms or don't admit having symptoms, said Susan Newcomer, the study's project officer at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in Bethesda, which funded the research.

Strategies to improve detection might include routine testing for all young adults, including those thought to be at low risk of infection, the researchers said.

Dr. Peter Beilenson, Baltimore's health commissioner, said the study points to a need to do widespread urine testing of that age group.

Beilenson said the number of reported gonorrhea cases in Baltimore dropped from 5,603 in 2000 to 5,031 in 2001, while the number of chlamydia cases increased from 5,433 cases in 2000 to 5,465 in 2001.

His department sent letters to health-care providers twice in the past year encouraging them to screen all sexually active patients under 30. However, the cost of the test, which can range from \$10 to \$50, and the fact that almost a third of 18- to 35-year-olds lack health insurance has limited its use, Beilenson said.

"We can no longer look to address the city's STD problem on our own," Beilenson said.

The new iMac: What's special about Apple's newest computer

BY DAVID FISHMAN
 THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Apple has thrown tons of hype and advertising out at the consumer public in introducing its new version of the iMac. But is this new machine really the second coming they make it out to be? True, the old iMac was a best-selling system, and single-handedly transformed the Mac's image to the New Beetle of computers, while effectively reestablishing Steve Jobs' control over Apple's vision. Anyone who knows tech can tell you that much.

But that was then, and this is now, and home computer sales continue to drop. Competing manufacturers are engaged in price wars. HP and Compaq are looking to merge. This is the new market into which the new iMac was introduced.

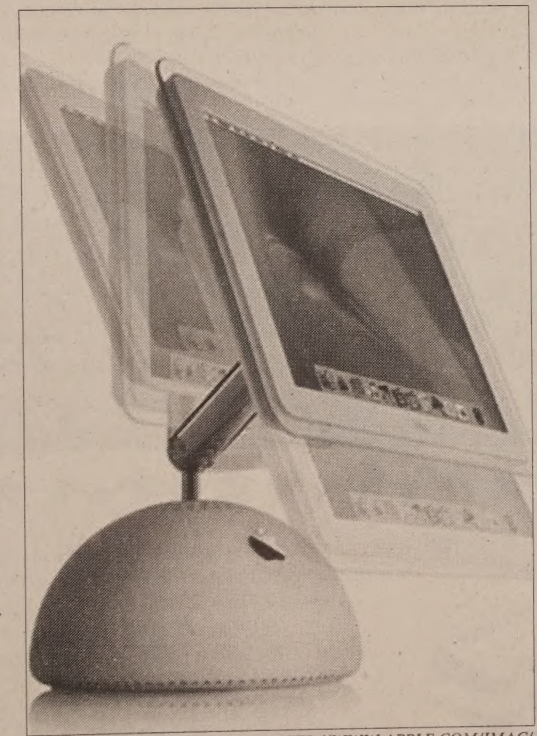
The new model goes along with the ideals of the first, namely an all-in-one system that stresses ease of use, lack of space and wires, and ultra-hip aesthetic styling. It adds a 15-inch flat-panel screen, a DVD burner, and faster specs across the board. The fastest type features specifically an 800 MHz G4 processor, GeForce2 MX video, the "SuperDrive" (combo CD-RW and DVD-R), 256 MB SDRAM, a 60 GB Ultra ATA hard drive, MacOS X, and software, including the popular iMovie.

The first things that hurt the iMac, however, are these numbers. Much better specs are posted by the Apple's G4 tower system. And no matter how the systems really compare, no matter how hard AMD stresses that MHz isn't the only factor in chip speed, consumers will laugh when they are asked to pick an "800 MHz" Mac over a "2 GHz" PC.

Maybe this isn't fair, but truth has a lot to do with public perception. The public views 800 to be lower than 2,000, despite the fact that a straight clock speed comparison doesn't work for the P4 and G4.

Then, there's the price. This top model costs \$1,799. Ouch! Someone needs to tell Steve Jobs that we don't pay that much for desktops anymore. In fact, if you did a head-to-head comparison between Apple, HP, and Compaq, using the \$1,499 iMac without the DVD-RAM (since it isn't common yet on PCs) and similar PCs, you would see that the PCs are about \$200-300 less.

The first thing, then, to help this iMac is the DVD burner, hands



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.APPLE.COM/IMAC/](http://www.apple.com/imac/)

The new iMac is very small and sleek but carries a hefty price tag, when compared to comparable PCs.

down. While DVD burners are slowly creeping their way onto PCs, this is the most public, most affordable and most available they have ever been. Users hoping to make

continued to drop in price, and they will integrate nicely with the progressing technologies of HDTV and digital TV. That said, I'm sure that a big part of the DVD burning market will be on computers, and the new iMac is the first visible step towards the eventual standardization of it.

Many reviewers have joked about the iMac launch event, when Steve Jobs demonstrated how one could easily move the new flat-panel monitor, with

just a touch. This "wonderful new design" has existed for years, they say, in the common desk lamp. Personally, I like the new design. It has a really small footprint (how much desk space it takes up), and it is just beautiful. However, if I want a piece of art, I will buy a piece of art, not a computer.

Computers don't have to look ugly, but that shouldn't be their primary function, and it certainly shouldn't be what you're paying for.

Computers don't have to look ugly, but that shouldn't be their primary function, and it certainly shouldn't be what you're paying for.

their own movies, or to copy discs (legally or illegally), want DVD burners.

I predict, however, that the future of DVD burning will have its golden age not when it enters mainstream computer use, but if it can displace the VCR. VCR-style DVD-burning standalone units have con-

Apple owners didn't see why they shouldn't wait another month for it. As such, no one bought them in December. It remains to be seen whether the end profits of the new system will justify its marketing campaign, or if this is a sign that the new iMac was doomed from the start. Check out the newest iMac at <http://www.apple.com/imac>.

This is News-Letter.

Heralding the news since 1896.

E-mail News.Letter@jhu.edu to join, or come to our open house on Monday (see B12).

Goddess makes amends

For what could quite possibly be the first time in her life, the Sports Goddess is going to apologize. Prepare yourselves—the heavens may fall, the rivers may run dry, a Pac-10 team may actually beat a Big East team. Such inconceivable things happen when the Goddess makes a mistake.

And she really screwed up this time.

In her short and straight-to-the-point tirade last week, she talked about saving the job of the Knicks coach. Which is all well and good, except that she referred to the Knicks coach as Chuck Daly, when the head



CARAGITLIN
SPORTS GODDESS

I mean, it's not like she's longing for the magical possibilities of the 70-plus year-old Daly taking over the Knicks.

coach of the Knicks is really Don Chaney.

The Sports Goddess often con-

fuses the two names for some mysterious reason. (They sound alike, they really do. Be a good sport and say them out loud, you'll see.) I

ing him in for a nap? Not that there's any need for the Sports Goddess or anyone else to even be speculating about what comedy would ensue is Daly were to be named the Knicks coach.

This is not even the smallest possibility; to her knowledge, no one has ever brought it up. The only reason that the Sports Goddess is even discussing this is to clarify that Chuck Daly does indeed exist, he just does not happen to be the current head coach of the New York Knicks.

I would like to apologize to Don Chaney for mistaking him for someone twice his age with half his patience. There are worse things in the world, though—I could have called him Pat Reilly.

Now that the Sports Goddess has shown more graciousness and humility than pretty much anyone on the face of the earth, it is time to address the current state of the NBA. Which is not all that terrific.

The big news surrounding All-Star Weekend was that Shaq was forced to miss the game with an injured toe. The game was on at an odd time, 5 p.m. on Sunday night, in a weekend that also featured the Opening Ceremonies of the Olympics and the NFL Pro Bowl.

It was also the weekend following the Superbowl and the NHL All-Star game. Talk about one overhyped event after another.

Women's Basketball keeps their focus on the next game



LIZ STEINBERG/NEWS-LETTER

The Women's Basketball team is looking at last week's loss to Swarthmore as a growing experience.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A12
committed two turnovers in the final minute of the game that led to three Swarthmore foul shots that sealed the Swarthmore victory by a score of 85-82.

For the LadyJays, sophomore Maureen Myers turned in the performance of the night, scoring 24 points and adding seven rebounds. Not far behind, junior center Kathy Darling added 21 points and nine rebounds. Although they were clearly disappointed, players also viewed the loss as a growing experience.

"You always go into games against your rival hoping for a win. It doesn't feel so great with a loss but we hope we'll get to play them again and then we will get another chance," says Darling.

On Saturday against Dickinson, the result was much more in the Lady Jays' favor as they pounded Dickinson 89-55 to hand their conference foe its fourth straight loss.

"After the Swarthmore loss, we knew we just needed to attack a lot more. We went inside to post players, and started driving down the middle. This caused their defense to collapse and that freed up our outside shots," says Darling.

Despite the lopsided victory, Hopkins did not get off to a stunning

start and they only led 23-17 midway through the first half. But from there, the Blue Jays pulled ahead with a 22-6 run to take a 45-23 lead at halftime. Dickinson came out in the second

After the Swarthmore loss, we knew we just needed to attack a lot more. [...] This caused their defense to collapse and that freed up our outside shot.

—KATHY DARLING

half with renewed enthusiasm and cut to the lead to as little as 17 points before the Lady Jays responded with a 19-2 run to take a 72-38 lead. In their overwhelming win, there

was no shortage of dazzling individual efforts on the part of the Lady Jays. In an outstanding effort, Darling played just 21 minutes of the game, but still managed to contribute a game-high 22 points.

Junior forward Jennifer Dearborn added 13 points and 10 rebounds for her second double double of the year while freshman guard Ashley Felix recorded 10 points.

The Lady Jays also received good news this week when they learned that as a result of her outstanding play during the last week, Darling was named to the Centennial Conference Honor Roll. In addition to averaging 21.5 points and eight rebounds during the two games, she also leads the team in both categories for the season. She has averaged 14.7 points and 7.7 rebounds with just a few games remaining.

Now, the team will look to Darling's leadership as they close out the regular season and prepare for the postseason. Despite her success, the Rowan transfer in her first year at Johns Hopkins is quick to caution that her focus, as well as the team's focus, will not jump ahead to the Conference Championships.

"We have to focus on just the next game and not look ahead to anything else," Darling says.

Must-win for Men's B-ball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A12
berth.

The Blue Jays traveled to Western Maryland Wednesday, but scores were unavailable at press time. Even though the Green Terror is in last place in the conference,

We have to play a solid week of basketball and not play other people's game.

—HEAD COACH BILL NELSON

Nelson was quick to not overlook them.

"It's true that Western Maryland has the worst record, but we can't let that affect our game," Nelson said. "We have to play a solid week of basketball and not play other people's

game. It's when we are forced to change our game that we begin to take wild shots and lose the game."

Johns Hopkins travels to Franklin & Marshall Saturday. Assuming a victory over Western Maryland, the Blue Jays will have to defeat the Diplomats so that both teams would have a 10-3 conference record.

Because Johns Hopkins owns the advantage, defeating Franklin & Marshall 68-61 Jan. 23, the Blue Jays would advance the conference playoffs.

According to Nelson, the game



HOLLY MARTIN/NEWS-LETTER

Men's Bball is battling F&M for a play-off spot.

plan is simple.

"If we win, we're in. If we lose, the season's over," he said.

Wrestling readies for playoffs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A12
out of six teams competing in the Centennial Conference.

Now, as they look to travel to Collegeville, Pa. for the Centennial

Conference Championships, Hopkins will attempt to improve on an already successful season.

During this year, the Jays doubled their win total from last year's 4 wins.

They will look to capitalize on their momentum of late, which has propelled them to a two-match win streak in the Conference after they began the season with three straight losses against Conference opponents.

"We're a really balanced team so most of our seeds will be in the middle," says Creamer.

"Our team is much deeper than last and we're hoping to pull off a few upsets."

of 69:3.

"We should be very well prepared for the conference championship in two weeks," Van Allen said. "I feel

We should be very well prepared for the conference championship in two weeks.

—HEAD COACH BOBBY VAN ALLEN

Conf. championships approaching for Track

CONTINUED FROM A12
At the Landover meet, freshman Jessica Bylander led the team in two events, setting a Hopkins record for the 200m with a time of 28:18 and long jumping for a distance of 14' 7-3/4.

Hannah Bracken set a Hopkins freshman best in the 400m in a time of 64:57.

Freshman Chi Chi Ogonna won her heat in the 60m hurdles with a time of 10:93. In the 3000 meters, junior Hilary Knipe ran her best time of the season at 11:09:6, only nine seconds from the ECAC qualifying time.

On the men's side, junior Rajeev Mahajan continued an impressive string of strong performances with a second place finish in the high jump with a height of 6' 4."

Matt Campbell set a freshman best in the 400m run with a time of 52:09. Sophomore Alex Gochal managed to hit the ECAC qualifying mark in the 500m with his time

that if everyone comes together with their best performances at Conferences, both the men and the women could finish in the top three or four for the first time ever."

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SENIORS:
2002 Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts

The deadline for the Sudler Prize, which carries a \$1,500 cash award, is **FRIDAY, MARCH 1.**

The Sudler Prize is awarded to recognize excellence in performance, execution, or composition in one of the arts. These include, but are not limited to, music, theater, dance, fiction, poetry, painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, film, or videotape.

To be eligible, you must be a senior in good academic standing and with sufficient credits to receive a degree at commencement in May 2002.

To compete for the Sudler Prize, submit the following to Ms. Julia Morgan, Sudler Prize Committee Coordinator, President's Office, 242 Garland Hall: (1) a completed application form; (2) a letter of recommendation from a Hopkins faculty member familiar with your work; (3) at least two examples of work done while you were a Hopkins student. You may also submit additional evidence of artistic achievement, such as critiques or reviews of your work.

To obtain an application form, or for additional information, contact Ms. Morgan at (410) 516-4697 or jmorgan@jhu.edu.

SPORTS

Philly phanatics: A model of idiocy

W.C. Fields hated Philadelphia. So visceral was his dislike for the "City of Brotherly Love," the legendary comedian ranked it only one place above death. His tombstone reads, "On the Whole, I'd Rather Be in Philadelphia."

What engendered his great aversion? If you've ever seen old footage of the man, you know it's pretty safe to assume that he held nothing against cheese steaks. Why then did he have such a great distaste for the city within whose borders our founders penned the Constitution?

The only answer that I can come up with is the Mr. Fields must have been an optimistic, sensitive sports fan. Those of that ilk are not welcomed in Philadelphia.

New York sports fans get a pretty bad rap. Critics complain that we are too negative, overly pessimistic. This may be true, but compared to the Philly fanatic, the New York fan is Mother Theresa, Gandhi and King Solomon, all rolled into one.

Last week's NBA All-Star game was quite entertaining. The contest seemed to have three definitive phases. The start featured some really creative passing. Then, individual displays of athleticism took over. Finally, the game was finished off with a barrage of three-point field goals reminiscent of the long-distance shoot out of the previous night.

The one constant to the game was the play of Kobe Bryant. The Laker's shooting guard tallied 31 points to lead all scorers. During the game, the goofy Bill Walton actually came up with an astute observation when he explained that Kobe was simply playing at a higher level than anyone else on the court. He seemed to be playing with an intensity aimed at winning the game rather than dazzling the fans.

Bryant's effort led the West to a victory and earned him Most Valuable Player honors. Unfortunately for Kobe, the game was played in Philadelphia.

The star guard was booed every time he touched the ball in the second half. Not surprisingly, Bryant was again drenched with negativity while

being awarded the trophy at the end of the game.

There are several reasons, or rationalizations, for such an unfavorable reaction. Bryant shot the ball 25 times, falling four attempts shy of Rick Barry's all time All-Star game record. Of course, he did connect on 12 attempts, which put him just under 50 percent from the field. Perhaps the



JEREMY M. LIFF

COOL, CALM AND COLLECTED

negativity stems from the memory of last year's NBA Finals in which Bryant played a pivotal role in dumping the 76ers in five games. Maybe the inauspicious feedback comes from a resentment of the fact that Kobe plays for a team other than Philadelphia, even though he hails originally from near the city.

All three of these possibilities are interesting, but ultimately wrong.

The real reason that Kobe Bryant was booed so vociferously on Sunday was that, in general, Philadelphia fans are unconstructive bullies, who employ a well-defined athletic inferiority complex to generate unbelievably obnoxious behavior.

I know it's pretty easy to not be the world's biggest Kobe Bryant fan. He is a 23-year-old millionaire, who can outplay almost every one of his competitors while carrying somewhat of an aloof demeanor. But he needn't make one apology for his perfor-

mance Sunday. He was the best player on the court and the leader of the winning team in a game that should feature nothing but friendly competition and good will.

Certainly, the Philly fan's detestable decision comes as no surprise. They have a long history. Like Bryant, Michael Irvin was another player who had a history of beating his Philadelphia opponent.

The former Cowboy's receiver also did things during his career that made him hard to really like. But Philadelphia fans took repugnant to a new level when they cheered as Irvin lied on the Veteran's Stadium turf after suffering a career ending spinal chord injury.

Today, Eagle's quarterback Donovan McNabb is thought of as the second coming by most Philly fans. But it was only a few short years ago that the former Syracuse star was also feeling the wrath. So enraged were the Eagle's fans upon hearing that the team had drafted McNabb instead of Ricky Williams, they serenaded the youngster with a chorus of boos as he walked up to the podium to accept his drafting. What exactly was going through these people's heads when they decided to boo a 21-year-old kid whose only mistake was acknowledging his own name?

Philadelphia's major sports radio station, WIP, is littered with callers who perpetuate these types of horrific sentiments. Several years ago, I spent a good part of the summer in the city and tuned in to listen to caller after caller criticize every aspect of former Phillies manager Jim Fergosi while refusing to give him an ounce of credit for Philadelphia's 1993 pennant run. I actually heard one caller say, "You know, Fergosi really didn't have anything to do with it [the 1993 championship]." Of course, the brilliant hosts of these shows, such as Howard Eskin, had no problem egging on the callers.

Former Met and Padre outfielder Kevin McRenolds once said that unless you are the city's superstar athlete, the fans want you to fail. Perhaps this explains the stark contrast between Bryant's reception and that of "former" thug Allen Iverson.

The fans resented Bryant's prolific shooting attempts, while Iverson, the biggest ball hog in the league, received the loudest ovation of any player.

Now I am not implying that the fans should not have cheered their hometown star. But they should have

If I were David Stern, I would think long and hard before allowing the All-Star game to again be played in Philadelphia.

also cheered Kobe. Their decision to boo was a clear indication that Philly fans are more than happy to put their grudges and misdirected disgust ahead of their willingness to celebrate a great performance, which is the obvious point of an All-Star game.

It was rather refreshing to hear an athlete finally throw away the idiotic phrases and clichés that today pass for an intelligent response and speak with some candor. When asked about the fan's reaction, Kobe bluntly stated, "Yeah, my feelings are hurt."

NBA Commissioner David Stern is the mastermind behind the league's growth into a multi-million dollar international corporation. One of the main driving forces behind the success of the league is its marketing ability. Television ads, promotional appearances and charity participation have allowed the league to wrap its product into a slick package with the card attached reading, "I Love This Game."

If I were David Stern, I would think long and hard before allowing the All-Star game to again be played in Philadelphia. After Sunday, it's pretty apparent that while Philadelphians may have love for their brothers, they don't feel quite the same way about the NBA.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Name: Maureen Myers
Nickname: Mo
Hometown: Waverly, Pa.
Major: Pre-major
Minors: Business and Spanish
Class: sophomore
Position: shooting guard

Favorite JHU Class: Basic B&W
Important Achievements: started all 23 games this season, leads the team with 27 3-pointers, is second on the team in scoring, assists and steals, named to Centennial Conference Honor Roll
Future Aspirations after JHU: take a year off
Pre-game ritual: Origins "Leg Lifts" lotion (It's a revitalizing lotion that has eucalyptus, rosemary, and peppermint... pretty stinky) and three pieces of gum.
Favorite Quote: "All this flat-belly BS is killing the country." -Jack Nicholson
Unique fact about you: I've had three beautiful foster siblings — Mikey, Benjamin, and Maggie.
Favorite pro athletes: Tino Martinez and David Robinson
Other interests: Travel, dancing, volunteering, spending time in Philly with my sister Meredith.



Name: Scott Creamer
Nickname: Scooter
Hometown: Wakefield, Rhode Island
Major: International Studies
Class: senior

Favorite JHU class: Bioethics or any class with Dr. Leslie
Important Achievements: Baltimore Orioles Scholar-Athlete of the year 1999-2002, four-time letter winner in wrestling.
Future Aspirations after JHU: Law school in D.C., will take a year off to travel or work as a legal assistant.
Pre-match ritual: Pacing back and forth listening to heavy-metal, such as Ministry.
Favorite Quote: "Hope is a good thing, maybe the best of things, and good things never die." -Stephen King
Unique fact about you: Started my own painting and landscaping business
Favorite pro athlete: Vernon Maxwell, and Steven Neal (former collegiate national champ, now in the NFL).
Other Interests: I enjoy camping and relaxing on the beach. I've always been an outdoors person.

Compiled by Jenny Farrelly

LOUIS AZREAL FELLOWSHIP

Three \$5,000 Scholarships

Applications are currently being taken for the Louis Azrael Fellowship in Communications, 3, one-year, \$5,000 scholarships for students who have demonstrated excellence in journalism, radio, television, or other kinds of public communications.

The fellowship has been won in recent years by Hopkins students Joshua Mark Greenberg, Stacy Patton, Douglas Steinke, Mark Ionescu, Jason Altman, Cyndie Chang, Young Chang, Adeel Hassan, David Novich, Kari Rosenthal, Rachel Sams (1998), Tom Gutting, Rachel Sams (1999), and Gregory Wu. It honors the memory of Louis Azrael, a nationally-known columnist for the now defunct Baltimore News American. Azrael was a Baltimore newsman for nearly sixty years and was distinguished for his work during World War II, especially for his account of D-Day. His war correspondence won him a Medal of Freedom from President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The Azreal Fellowship is given through The Writing Seminars Department, and the judging committee will be chaired by Professors Wayne Biddle and Dale Keiger. As Hopkins has no official communications department, students in any department who are considering a career in the media are invited to apply. Applicants for the fellowship must be Hopkins sophomores or juniors, and must be nominated by a faculty member, or self-nominated with a letter of recommendation from a faculty member.

Students should submit a portfolio of supporting materials of 15-30 pages, a brief biography, a statement about current interests, and a prospectus of their future plans, along with their sponsorship to the Writing Seminars office, 136 Gilman by Friday, March 31st, 3:00p.m.

For more information please contact Professor Wayne Biddle 410-516-7897 and/or Professor Dale Keiger 410-516-7903

CALENDAR

Saturday

Women's B-ball 3 p.m. vs Franklin & Marshall
M. Fencing 12 p.m. vs. UNC, Drew, UVA, W&M



SPORTS

DO YOU KNOW?

More federal dollars are being spent on the Salt Lake City Games than on the previous two Olympic Games combined — and that's not even counting money for security.

W. B-ball breezes Men's B-ball throttles Swarthmore

past Dickinson



LIZ STEINBERG/NEWS-LETTER
The Lady Jay's record stands at 18-5 overall, 9-3 in their Conference.

BY ERIC RIDGE

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

With their regular season drawing to a close, the Women's Basketball team dealt with a week of mixed emotions as they fell victim to Swarthmore, 85-82, in double overtime but easily defeated Dickinson by a score of 89-55. The Lady Jays now have a record of 18-5 overall and 9-3 in the Centennial Conference heading into the last stretch of the season in which they will take on Franklin & Marshall Saturday after they battled Western Maryland Tuesday night.

At home last Wednesday against Swarthmore, Hopkins fought to stay competitive with a leading team in both the Conference and in all of Di-

missed Swarthmore free throw to force overtime by hitting a lay-up to

You always go into games against your rival hoping for a win. It doesn't feel so great with a loss, but we hope we'll get to play them again and then we will get another chance.

—KATHY DARLING

even the score at 69.

In the first overtime period, the Blue Jays jumped ahead with a three-point lead but squandered it with 35 seconds remaining when Swarthmore guard Katie Robinson, who scored 40 points on the night, drained a three-point shot to tie the contest. After Hopkins missed two free throws and Swarthmore missed a final shot, the game entered a second overtime.

In that period the Blue Jays started out tough, managing to tie the game at 82-82 with one minute remaining. However, the Blue Jays saw their hopes of victory evaporate as they

CONTINUED ON PAGE A10

BY ERIC TAN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

After a heartbreaking loss to the Centennial Conference leader Gettysburg, the Johns Hopkins basketball team rebounded with convincing victories Wednesday against Swarthmore, 65-52, and Sunday against Dickinson, 69-52. Junior Steve Adams led the Blue Jays with game-highs of 19 and 17 points against the Garnet Tide and Red Devils, respectively.

With a 90-81 loss to Dickinson in which Red Devil point guard Billy Hagan scored 37 points fresh in mind, Johns Hopkins (14-8, 8-3) held onto a narrow 35-31 halftime behind a tight defensive effort by sophomore guard Kevin Marquez. He shut down Hagan, holding him to just six points and three rebounds while forcing three turnovers.

The Blue Jays slowly pulled away by holding Dickinson to just seven points in the first 12 minutes of the

[Kamm]'s a real leader out on the floor... [Kamm] brings a calming presence onto the floor, helping the team keeps its composure.

—HEAD COACH BILL NELSON ON JUNIOR PG BRENDAN KAMM

second half. Adams notched his fourth double-double with 17 points and 15 rebounds while senior forward Matthew Easley and junior Jay Kreider each added 11 points. Sophomore Matt Righter came off the bench to contribute eight points and two assists.

"It was a great game for us," head coach Bill Nelson said. "We were able to keep them to only 35 percent shooting and we were able to put the game away in the second half. Too many times this season have we played a great first half only to lose our composure and let teams

come back in the second half."

Nelson was disappointed that, despite leading the Centennial Conference with a 38 percent three-point shooting percentage, the team shot only 17 percent from that range against Dickinson.

"We were a little flat on shooting," Nelson said. "We weren't sharp offensively, but we were able to pick it up on defense, which helped us take control of the game."

Earlier in the week, the Blue Jays played host to Swarthmore, handily defeating them by 13 points. The Blue Jays had to be patient as the Garnet Tide used a slowly moving offense to try to offset the defensive rhythm of Johns Hopkins.

"[Swarthmore] was holding onto the ball for 25 seconds before they even thought about a shot," Nelson said. "They knew that we had the bigger men in the middle so they wanted to wear us down, but we just played our game and didn't let them disrupt our plans."

The Blue Jays were able to take a 30-22 halftime lead and extend it to 41-24 by the 16 minute mark, but the Garnet Tide would not give up as they cut the lead to five with 9:49 remaining in the game. However, a three-pointer by Kreider and consecutive lay-ups by Easley sealed the victory.

Junior point guard Brendan Kamm dished out a career-high 10 assists while Marquez and Righter each added nine points. Adams was named to the Centennial Conference Honor Roll after averaging 18 points and nine rebounds in both wins.

With the two victories, Johns Hopkins has won 11 of its last 14 games and is 5-1 in conference play. According to Nelson, Kamm de-



HOLLY MARTIN/NEWS-LETTER

With two recent victories, Hopkins has won 11 of 14 games and is 5-1 in Conference play.

serves most of the credit for the success of the Blue Jays this season.

"He's a real leader out on the

HOME	Dickinson	55
VISITOR	Hopkins	89
HOME	Swarthmore	52
VISITOR	Hopkins	65

floor," Nelson said. "He's been very vocal, making sure that everyone runs the right plays and is making the cuts and the screens that they need to. He brings a calming pres-

ence onto the floor, helping the team keeps its composure."

Johns Hopkins controls its own fate as the 2001-2002 season comes to an end. Victories over Western Maryland and Franklin Marshall in the final two games of the season will clinch the Centennial Conference playoff

CONTINUED ON PAGE A10

Track splits up to finish strong

BY JEFF KATZENSTEIN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Johns Hopkins indoor track team divided its forces last weekend to send five athletes to the St. Valentine's Invitational at Boston University while the remainder of the team competed at the Prince George's Complex in Landover, Maryland.

The Jays finished with strength at both meets, as several Hopkins records as well as personal bests were broken.

"I was very pleased with the efforts of the team," coach Bobby Van Allen commented.

At the invitation-only meet in Boston last weekend, five Blue Jays competed with a huge field of some of the top athletes on the East Coast. Although the Jays finished in the middle of the respective events, every athlete had a seasonal best mark.

With their impressive finishes, all five qualified for the East Coast Athletic Conference Championship meet. Senior Captain John Apperson shattered the Hopkins indoor track record for the 800-meter dash by more than two seconds with a time of 1:57.14.

Junior Quinlan Amos posted a season best in the 200 meters at 22.80.

For the women, junior captain Nikki Gross finished with a personal best of 2:25.0 in the 800 meters, as did sophomore Aline Bernard, with a time of 10:47.43 in the 3000 meters.

Bernard finished fourth in the Division III race and third in her heat. Finally, Heather Blair recorded a solid time in the mile at 5:14.25.

CONTINUED ON PAGE A10

Wrestling ends season with a slam

Team knocks off Washington & Lee 24-16, puts record at 8-9

BY ERIC RIDGE

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Finishing its regular season on a triumphant note, the wrestling team swept its tri-match tournament held at Washington & Lee last week. In the match, the Blue Jays defeated Centennial Conference opponent Washington & Lee as well as Albright to

improve their regular season-ending record to 8-9 and their Conference record of 2-3.

The Blue Jays now look ahead to a difficult post season that will begin on Saturday at the Conference Championships.

In their tri-match last week, the Jays were able to muster a victory against Washington & Lee by a score of 24-16 in a closely contested match. Hopkins rallied to defeat their conference foe in part due to strong performances by a number of younger wrestlers.

Washington & Lee was also handicapped by a critical forfeit in the 133 pound weight class. In addition, the Jays were able to capitalize on a number of important pins against their opponents that allowed them to earn more points than are awarded for decisions.

"We won the same amount of matches as Washington & Lee. It was earning extra team points by pins that made a big difference," says senior Scott Creamer.

Against Albright, the Jays cruised to victory by a total score of 43-6. The Jays lost only two matches and were aided by four Albright forfeits. Senior Mike Halchak won a decision to notch his 10th victory of the year.

The Blue Jays' success in the tri-match was driven largely by strong performances by several of their underclassmen wrestlers who won both of their matches for the day. Included in this list of players were sophomores Mike Diliberti and Karol Gryczynski, as well as fresh-

man Jason Suslavich, who wrestle in the 125, 285 and 141 weight divisions, respectively.

Junior Brian Frank, wrestling in the 133 lb. class also won both of his matches for the day but both were

Our team is much deeper than last and we're hoping to pull off a few upsets.

—SCOTT CREAMER

forfeits. Individually, Diliberti won his matches by pinning both of his opponents.

Gryczynski improved his team-best individual record to 24-6 overall as well as an impressive 4-1 record in the Conference with a pin against his opponent from Washington & Lee. In addition to leading the team in victories, Gryczynski added to his impressive season accolades by also leading the team with 14 decisions and six pins.

Following Gryczynski, Frank (11-5), freshman Pat Marti (6-5), sophomore Tim Wagner (10-7) and freshman Dave DeGaravilla (6-5) all finished with winning records for the entire season.

With their victories over the weekend, the Blue Jays solidified their regular season finish in fourth place

CONTINUED ON PAGE A10

Fencing impaled by Div. I squads

BY DAVID GONEN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Men's Fencing dropped its record to 16-10 after losing all four of its matches last weekend. The losses were to some tough competition, including two Div. I schools. The Blue Jays fell to MIT 11-16, to the Duke Blue Devils 8-19, and to the North Carolina Tar Heels 8-19. The team also lost a down to the wire match against Brandeis, 13-14.

All four opponents were known for their strong recruiting programs which draw in experienced fencers. Although Hopkins' main focus is on winning in their MACFA Conference, meets against top competition are usually included to test themselves and gain experience against more experienced competitors.

The Blue Jays obtained strong performances from freshman foil Brian Bishe and sophomore epee Matt Bouloubasis. Bouloubasis won 11 of his twelve bouts while Bishe went 9-3

in his foil duels. Junior foil Daniel Frank chipped in by finished 5-7 on the day.

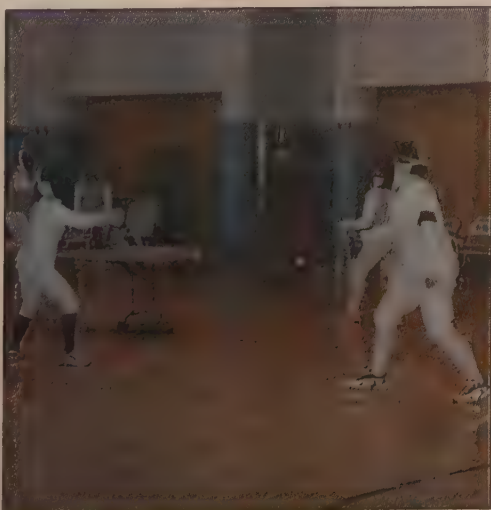
Aside from these standout performances, Hopkins had little luck. Five other fencers each won three bouts.

The Blue Jays return home this weekend to host Virginia, William & Mary, North Carolina and Drew.

These schools, with the exception of North Carolina are MACFA Conference schools.

The Blue Jays look to rebound

from last weekend and improve their Conference record.



HOLLY MARTIN/NEWS-LETTER

Fencing dropped its record to 16-10 last weekend.

The B Section

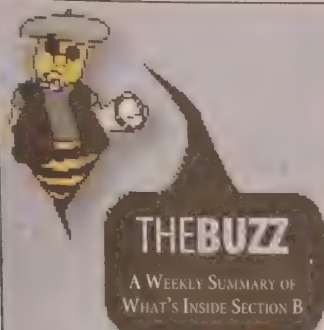
FEATURES, ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT, AND MORE! • FEBRUARY 14, 2002

THE JOHNS HOPKINS
NEWS-LETTER

Quote
of the
Week

“Since we’re
among friends,
let’s show all our
underwear.”

—Vern Falby, Music Theory



VALENTINE'S DAY MESSAGES

See what your honey has to say to you. Or just read what other sweet guys or gals have to say to their love-bunnies and get jealous, then go and eat a quart of Ben and Jerry's. • B2

FEATURES

The world champion speedboat racer is profiled. And guess what? She's a frosh at Hopkins. Also, how to throw a dinner party and a tidbit about Black History Month • B3

We've got some fitness tips for those of you who want to make the most of the new AC, and an expose on recently unbanned liquor ads on T.V. • B4

Thinking about adding another hole? Check out our writer's experience with piercing. And how is the majority of Hopkins spending Valentine's Day? See B5 for details.

We've got pics from Mardi Gras for all of you who wish you could have joined in the flashing and bead getting. Also, a look at Spring 2002 fashion trend, and a word from our chief, S. Brendan Short. • B6

A & E

Bluegrass music makes a comeback, thanks to *O Brother Where Art Thou?* Also, Caroline M. Saffer reviews *Lantana* and new installments of the "Bit Theory" and "On the Way to the Bus" columns. • B7

The BMA celebrates Black History Month with "Looking Forward/Looking Black." Also, if a vagina could talk, what would it say? Find out more about *The Vagina Monologues*. • B8

CALENDAR

This Saturday enjoy a concert perfof 200 musicians ormed by the Peabody Symphony Orchestra, Peabody Chamber Singers, Peabody Concert Singers and Peabody Hopkins Chorus combined! B10-11

QUIZ

Lots and lots of hearts. Hearts on Valentine's Day? Who'd have guessed! • B12

Welcome to the darkness of Storytelling

In his new film, Todd Solondz explores perception, writing and censorship with his trademark dark humor

BY JASON SHAHINFAR

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Storytelling, the new film from director/writer Todd Solondz (*Happiness*, *Welcome to the Dollhouse*), is all about the art and act of writing. Solondz splits the movie into two parts, "Fiction" and "Non-fiction" and shows how easily our subjective perception of real life loses its grip in other people's perceptions, while writing about it. This film is a must see for anyone who loves to write.

For anyone who's seen a Todd Solondz film, there's no telling what dark humor lies within. In the first part, "Fiction," Vi (Selma Blair) is having relationship problems with Marcus (Leo Fitzpatrick), who has cerebral palsy. One night, at a bar, she sees her creative writing professor, Mr. Scott (Robert Wisdom). She decides to go back to his place not knowing what could happen — but we can all assume. The following week, in her class, she reads a story she wrote about a woman named Jane who goes to a man's house, where he practically rapes her and makes her say things like, "Nigger, fuck me hard!" Everyone in the class thinks it's a cliché story with no substance, but Vi tries to explain that it really happened.

In the second part, "Non-fiction," we see a documentary film maker (Paul Giamatti) making a movie about teenagers. He ends up concentrating on one teen and his family from New Jersey. The teen, Scooby (Mark Webber), and his father (John Goodman) don't exactly see eye to eye on college and the SATs. This results in the major conflict in the family and the documentary. After a while, Scooby realizes that he and his family are only being exploited for people to laugh at during screenings of the documentary.

This is just a general idea of what happens, but there is much



Filmmaker Todd Solondz speaks with actor Mark Webber (Scooby) on the set of his latest film, *Storytelling*. COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.IMDB.COM](http://www.imdb.com)

more going on in the movie with both plot and themes. Todd Solondz made a huge hit with *Welcome to the Dollhouse*. This gave him the ability to make *Happiness*, which may be one of the best films of the '90s. *Happiness* is an extremely dark comedy about a group of people in Jersey. The jokes are so hard to take that audiences never knew when to laugh or cringe. Of course, with a film that is so in-your-face and brutal, there will always be critics. Many called Solondz a racist and a misogynist, and they said he was exploiting his characters for humorous value. *Storytelling* was obviously made as a response to all of his critics.

When the filmmaker apologizes for the horrible events that occur, Scooby simply says: "Why? Your film's a hit." This dark and cynical response to critics makes *Storytelling* one of the best films of the year.

Like Eminem's second album, this movie makes many references to Solondz's previous work and what critics said about him as a filmmaker. When Vi reads her story in class, people find it very racist, and she keeps insisting that it happened. But her professor says, "Once we start writing, we no longer know what's real and what's fiction."

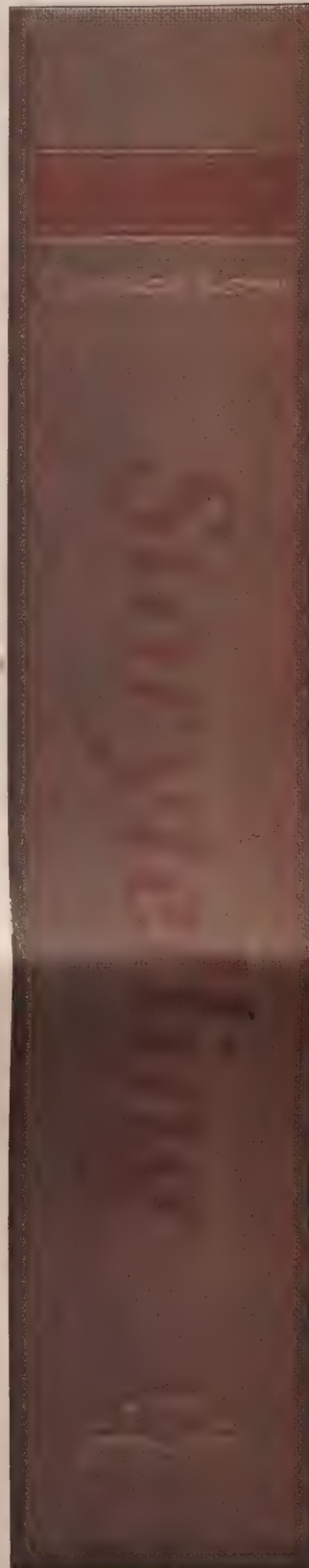
In the second half of the film, when Scooby sees audiences laughing at his life, he becomes very disillusioned. When the filmmaker apologizes for the horrible events that occur, Scooby simply says: "Why? Your film's a hit." This dark and cynical response to critics makes *Storytelling* one of the best films of the year. While you may enjoy the film on its own, you should have *Happiness* in mind when watching. It gives the film a much richer feel.

The jokes, of course, are similar to those in his previous work, though not as insane as in *Happiness* — but there are jokes about Hitler. There is also a very hilarious and frank discussion between the youngest son of the family and the Latino house-maid about why she is poor.

Unfortunately, Solondz had to deal with some censorship this time around. During the sex scene in "Fiction" there was one shot that the censorship board wanted to get rid of. Instead of getting rid of it, Solondz put a big red box over that part of the scene. While it does detract from the movie, it definitely shows how Solondz feels about his work.

There was also a huge chunk cut out upon request of actor James Van Der Beek. He was originally in the movie as a closeted football player, but after seeing the final cut he wanted his part taken out of the movie. Why? I don't know. I thought it would have been an honor to be in a Todd Solondz film, but whatever. The extra editing reduced the running time of the movie to only 89 minutes, which is unfortunate. Hopefully we'll get to see a full, uncensored version on DVD one day.

This film is currently playing at the Charles Theatre and I recommend that you check it out. It isn't for everyone, but if you've seen *Happiness* and you enjoyed it, then you'll love *Storytelling*.



LIZ STEINBERG/NEWS-LETTER

The empty truth of Valentine's Day: It's an excuse to buy crap

BY TERESA MATEJOVSKY
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The signs say that Valentine's Day is here. Heart-shaped chocolate boxes fill display windows. Dozens of red roses are on special sale. It's cold. But what is it really about Feb. 14 that makes the heart go wild? Good question. For all its glamour in support of love, Valentine's Day has few devout lovers of its own.

Back in elementary school, the Day of Love meant innocent pink-frosting cupcakes and a Looney Tunes Valentine from everyone in the class. Maybe even from a Secret Admirer. Now, the tip of Cupid's arrow sometimes seems to bring more loath than love.

For both couples and singles, Valentine's Day can mean trouble. Couples agonize over the gifts they're expected to give. Singles mope over the gifts they don't expect to receive. Much of the enthusiasm that one generally associates with a holiday is lost in the anticipation of knowing exactly what to expect. Or to dread.

"Valentine's Day functions are nothing more than unneeded stress on both sides of a relationship to live up to expectations," sophomore Jamie Palaganas said. "Even worse, for those uninvolved, it causes self-pity and torture."

Couples, if nothing else, at least have a set code of conduct for Feb. 14. Dinner. Gifts. Being extra cute and cuddly. The pre-planning, though, can take the fun out of the day. People

rush around, buying fuzzy stuffed hearts and roses and Wild Sex body butter to proclaim their undying love. And then the next day, it's back to normal. It makes one wonder why this single day is supposed to define a relationship for the other 364.

"Yeah, Valentine's Day is a pretty forced holiday, but if a couple's meant to be together, both people will look forward to having an excuse to display their affection," sophomore Seema Kaura said.

Both girls and guys struggle within a pre-determined assortment of gift possibilities. While the day mandates

hearts and a pink, white and red color scheme, in the stores, girlfriend gifts are favored by far.

Display windows push heart-shaped boxes of chocolate, bouquets of red roses, lingerie and jewelry.

"I think Valentine's Day gifts should be very personal — none of this flowers and candy crap," Kaura said.

But sophomore Jon Post will be getting his girlfriend flowers. While the rare girl may not agree, flowers are a safe bet and always appreciated.

Boyfriends are more difficult. Between heart-patterned boxer shorts and Hot Sex oil from

Spencer's, girlfriends don't get that much leeway on the traditional side of gift giving.

"It's an eternal dilemma of what to buy boys for a holiday invented for girls to get presents and candy," sophomore Stephanie Sun said.

However, unless couples can keep the romancing up throughout the entire year, Valentine's Day will last just as long as it takes roses to wilt — or the credit card bill to show up.

Sophomore Bethany Morehouse had a hard time shopping for her boyfriend because she didn't want to get him "any corny gift." As easy as cutesy gifts may be, she said that deep down, "no guy wants a f---king teddy bear." Kaura said that sometimes just "a personal gift like cooking their favorite meal" works magic.

However, unless couples can keep the romancing up throughout the entire year, Valentine's Day will last just as long as it takes roses to wilt — or the credit card bill to show up. While guys have it easier in the store, they'll be quick to agree they take it harder on their wallet. The classic Valentine's date usually extends past the Tiffany's bracelet to the fancy dinner.

For singles, Valentine's Day can do more damage to the heart than good. No other holiday singles people out so acutely. For all the seeming specificity of days like birthdays and Father's Day and Mother's Day, everyone has a birthday at some point during the year, and everyone has parents. Not everyone is paired.

Disenchanted singles and non-sappy lovers have promoted Anti-Valentine's Day for years. One look on the Internet and one finds hoards of save-the-sappiness commentaries and advertisements for Single's

CONTINUED ON PAGE B3



EMILY NALVEN/NEWS-LETTER

This annual Hallmark holiday needlessly makes people feel like shit if they're single, and couples are forced to profess love or hit the road.

VALENTINE'S DAY MESSAGES

To my favorite obscenely handsome traveling
salesman: I'd like 17 sets of encyclopedias, please.

Legos, anyone?
Love, the Goddess

**Poetessl3
loves
Dirtyczech57**

Dear Cock Block,
Welcome aboard.
-Amsterdam

*To the boy who bought me a Slinky
and astronaut ice cream. You rule.*

-H

Dear Duck,
Miss that jug. Call me?
-CB

To my mock trial family,
Best of luck at regionals.
-Den Mom

Priti-
I hope you enjoyed our first
date as much as I did. Will
you go out with me?
-Jason

To the muddiest man I know:
what say you and me buy us
some hogs?
-Love, the Weathergirl

Dear Al,
Sorry about things. Can we be friends?
Pretty please? C'mon! I'll give you a pretzel.
Don't mess with Texas,
GWB

To all you Political Science types:

My deepest affections to
the "hottest" department.
Especially to you cute
graduate students.

♡ Shannon

Dear Jebus,
Thanks for not forsaking
us.
-Homer

Dear Soup Spoon,
I love that we are two puzzle pieces
that fit together for bagels
in the morning.
Love,
Your Dessert Spoon

Dear Kathy,
Love ya, babe. How's about another year?
- Charbs

TG & CL:

Hope the job
market is treating
you well. We miss
your tough loving.

-N-L

Taka:

My life was shortened by a bad
driver, but your faith in my
interest group theories revives me.
— Jack Walker

Much love to my girls Mollie, Pam, Marina,
Jocelyn, Monica, and Emily -CS

**To the
Bradford
Bunch,
T-Bone
loves you.**

Dear Mom & Dad,
Happy Anniversary.
Love, Brendan
P.S.: This is the last time it gets
announced publicly, so savor it.

Dear President Fountain-Hair,
I'm afraid the News-Letter's symbol of you
greatly overstates the real thing.
- The Student Body

Dear Tongs,
You can toss my salad
anytime!
Love,
Your Dessert Bowl

Dear Whitilicious,
Whats a couple thousand miles
anyway. Nothing, when you're
this close to my heart. I love
you.
-RD

Dear S,
You have the best job
in the world. tee hee.
-Love, S

Duke -
It's been too long since you've
sniffed my ass.
-Your Bitch

Turbo,
I wish we could share
more than just a name.
Love, Turbo

Dear TAs,
You can get all the
T & A you want
from me for an A.
Love,
Flunkie Fannie

Dear Canadian girls,
You're hot - emigrate!
-A, C, S

FEATURES

JHU's champion boat racer

Tricia McMaster comes from a family of speedboat enthusiasts

BY MAANY PEYVAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Sometimes I think I'm interesting. I think that the things that I've seen, the circumstances surrounding me, the things I've done with my life are somehow special and unique. I imagine people caring about them and wanting to know more. And then I meet someone like Tricia McMaster. At age 18, Tricia is the world speedboat racing champion, having only competed for two years. I once ate a 32 oz. steak. It was pretty big.

Tricia grew up in Salisbury, Md., an only child. Both her father and grandfather raced speedboats but never with the fervor and in the capacity that Tricia now does.

"I started going to races while in the womb. Children aren't allowed to race, so I started the day I turned 16. My grandfather won a few national titles, but nothing big. My father never made it very far," she said.

Races consist of high-speed fiber glass boats, with varying speeds of 60 to 200 mph, doing laps around a mile long oval course. Both one-seat and two-seat boats race depending on the class. This year, Tricia and her partner placed first in the APBA Inboard World Championship in Hampton, Va. "It was an off-chance that I won. I replaced a guy who had to have surgery for an injury." She's modest.

Once in the boat, Tricia's responsibilities seem profuse. "I have to drive, study all the gauges, control the water temperature as it enters the engine, clock the start and tell my partner when to go — but basically it's just hold on and drive. You drop your head down to check the gauges every once in a while. Each race lasts about 10 minutes."

"It's a year round thing," Tricia said, regarding the commitment. There are meetings every weekend, from the middle of January to the middle of March. From April to November you race every weekend, and always in a different place. I've gone to races in Canada, Michigan, South Carolina." It must be fun to fly everywhere, I mention. "Fly?" she says.

The driving across country gets tedious Tricia says, but she enjoys spending time with what she calls her

racing family. "You see them every weekend. The friends I've made racing, I've had since I was two. The two reasons I do this are the speed and the family." Even her mom is a part of her racing life. "She's on the rescue team. If I ever crash, she's the first person I see."

Tricia then relates stories to me of seeing helping people on the side of the road towing boats. "If they have an APBA sticker," she says, "they're family." I wonder if boating is a distraction from school. "Not at all. School is a distraction from boating." Tricia hopes to race for as long as she can, but denounces it as a career. "The only people who make money from boating are the people that fix the boats."



Tricia is a modest champion with an engineering career in her future.

The sport remains sort of small, with about 100 active boat racers in the world. Some races are small, and some sell out bleachers at \$80 a seat. People who race do so on a regular basis, about 30 times a year.

I start to ask her questions about her campus life. She's a BME major, unsure of her career. "I'd like to man-

age an engineering firm," she says. "I'm definitely not pre-med." With her weekends spent racing and attending meetings, she says it's hard to join clubs and do sports. "I miss the weekend parties, but that's ok. We have boating parties that aren't held in slimy frats."

Tricia occasionally waitresses at a Chinese restaurant back home, and she mentions a boyfriend of three years attending the hometown university, but you can sense the nucleus of her life. When I ask about the posters in her room, she says they all belong to her roommate: "The boating ones in the corner are mine."

"I don't consider boating a sacrifice. They're my family and it's a great experience." She says she likes Hop-

kins and is having a good time, but I imagine she looks forward to weekends a lot more than most students do. "Make sure and mention that I'm looking for corporate sponsorship," she said. I'm looking for a nice pair of bookends. "My favorite movie is *The Shawshank Redemption*." Mine too. We're interesting!

Black History Month raises students' cultural awareness

BY EUNA LHEE
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Americans have been celebrating black history annually every since the first Negro History Week in 1926. It later became expanded to Black History Month in 1976 as a part of the nation's Bicentennial and now is celebrated all over North America.

"Black History Month allows students to appreciate and understand a different historical lens — thus everyone benefits, as education goes hand in hand with tolerance," freshmen Brooke Neuman said.

However, a full understanding of February as Black History Month is only achieved after looking at the social and intellectual implications which existed in the Western world from 1619 and on. Briefly speaking, according to the Jan. 27 issue of *Ghana Review*, "African Americans and



COURTESY OF HTTP://BLACKHISTORY.DB.COM

W.E.B. DuBois

other peoples of African descent were classified as a race that had not made any contribution to human civilization." Even in the wake of the Civil War, African Americans were still being sold off as slaves and did not

even count as a human, but instead, three-fifths of one. It was also estimated, according to *Ghana Review*, that an African American was lynched every two and a half days.

In the academic and intellectual area, no one knew or read anything about African history since books and other ideas by black authors were withheld from society. As a result, African Americans lost their identity and were dehumanized as slavery and segregation were deemed to be acceptable behavior by the Western world. Even Professor Johns Burgess, the founder of Columbia University graduate school of Political Science and an important figure in American scholarship, defined the African race as "a race of me which has never created any civilization of any kind..."

In this atmosphere of intellectual ignorance and racial intolerance came Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson, who was disturbed to find that the history books largely ignored the black American population, and when blacks did make the books, it reflected their inferior social status. Son of former slaves and a Harvard graduate, he launched Negro History Week in the second week of February in order to bring national awareness to the contributions of black people to American history.

"People should recognize black history and culture as well as be open to learn," junior Black Student Committee of the Black Students Union Co-Chair Shameeka Smalling said. "People should also acknowledge why there is a need for Black History Month."

Woodson chose the second week of February since it celebrated the birthdays of two prominent black men: Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. In addition, February is significant for other reasons than Douglass and Lincoln's birthdays. For example, the civil rights leader and co-founder of NAACP W.E.B. DuBois was born on Feb. 23; the 15th Amendment giving blacks the right to vote was passed on Feb. 3; the first black U.S. Senator Hiram R. Revels took his oath of office on Feb. 25; the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

CONTINUED ON PAGE B6

Valentine's Day truths

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

Awareness Day.

Palaganas advised just "sleeping through it so as to avoid the unnecessary pain."

Valentine's Day can bring the doldrums, it's not as bad as you may think. Against common belief, suicide rates do not spike around Valentine's Day.

"There is a common misconception that suicide rates are highest around holidays. Rates actually peak during the months of April, May and June," Dr. Louise Douce, staff psychologist for 23 years at Ohio State University (OSU) said during a lecture series on suicide this week at OSU. "The stress is up [around Valentine's Day] but suicides are actually not up at that time."

In this modern day, however, Valentine's Day has reached a new dimension. While couples cuddle over a candlelit dinner, singles are getting together to celebrate independence and make the most of an elitist old holiday.

"People think Valentine's Day is just a Hallmark excuse to sell stuff

and make single people feel bad," Sun said. Although she herself will be out with her boyfriend, she believes the day has evolved into one that can be fun for singles, too: "It's another excuse for people that are unattached to get drunk."

Kaura will be out having a potluck dinner with her single friends tonight and maybe "taking a shot for every time they say 'sex' in *Sex and the City*."

It's the anticipation of knowing exactly what to expect that ruined the old Valentine's Day. Singles dreaded being lost in the cutesy-ness of couples. Girls agree that nothing could be more romantic than a dozen roses, unless they actually came as a surprise. On this supposed day of love, people are actually sitting around waiting for them.

With a broader interpretation for Valentine's Day, today can be fun. Money and worry away, Valentine's Day can be more than just a reason to market a new color assortment of M&Ms. (THAT, in itself, is almost a reason in itself to celebrate. Come on, pink and red M&Ms??) Grab a friend and go have fun.

Bilkent exchange is a valuable experience



A couple of the picturesque mosques in Istanbul.

BY JESSICA VALDEZ
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Hopkins students now have the option of spending the summer in the heart of the former Ottoman Empire in Ankara, Turkey. Rich with history, the city of Ankara surrounds an old citadel built 2000 years ago and is located near Turkey's capital, Istanbul. Best of all, the opportunity is absolutely free for Hopkins students.

With the recent extension of Hopkins' relationship with Bilkent University, Hopkins students can spend a 10-week summer term in the "cradle of civilization" from the beginning of June to the end of July, said Suzy Bacon, Coordinator of Academic Programs for the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences.

"It is an expenses-paid semester," said Bacon. "This means that though the students would have to pay for transportation. They would not pay

for tuition and room and board." Students are only expected to absorb the cost of airfare.

"A study abroad program of this magnitude generally costs a few thousand dollars," stated Steven David, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences.

"The program developed out of an exchange program Johns Hopkins established with Bilkent University about three to four years ago," said Andrew Douglas, associate dean for academic affairs of the Whiting School of Engineering.

"A number of students from Turkey came to Johns Hopkins, but we didn't send any students in return," said Dean David. "To correct the imbalance, Bilkent decided to extend the invitation to the summer as compensation for Hopkins teaching of Bilkent students."

According to Bacon, selected students can take three to six transferable credits during their term in Tur-

key, which can be selected from a range of courses.

Offered courses include Central Asia in World Politics, Islam in the Contemporary World and Process of European Integration. "Courses of special interest show a lot of international relations," said Bacon. "I suspect we're going to have a greater number of Arts and Sciences students applying."

Douglas added, "The program is most useful for Arts and Sciences students in that the offerings they have are fantastic for Arts and Sciences students. It's in the cradle of civilization."

Douglas indicated that the pro-

gram does not have as much direct applicability to engineering students, but he still argued its positive influence.

International opportunities are highly beneficial to any student," said Dean Douglas. "If you think about

how international technology is becoming, anything that expands the horizons of engineering students is beneficial to them."

Hopkins will select two to five students out of its applicants for the program, and students are only eligible if they are currently in their sophomore or junior year, said Bacon. Freshman cannot apply.

Applications for the program should be given to Bacon for students of the

School of Arts and Sciences and to Steph Schreckinger for students of the

School of Engineering. They can be reached respectively at bacon@jhu.edu and stephs@jhu.edu.

"We need a transcript, resume and a two-page essay about what they want

to study and why they want to go to Bilkent," said Bacon.

"Selection will be based on the seriousness of their intent. It's not just a free trip to Turkey for 10 weeks for a good time."

David

emphasized the selectivity of the program this year.

"This is the first year of the program so the students selected will have to be particularly mature and adaptive," he stated, foreseeing possible problems in its initial year.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HTTP://ISTANBULCITYGUIDE.COM

Bilkent University is located near Istanbul, the capital of Turkey.

Throw a dinner party



FILE PHOTO

Everyone should throw their own dinner party, simply for a fun time.

BY GINA CALLAHAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

In addition to being necessary for the sustainability of the human body, food also serves as the focal point of many social gatherings. College students away from home (and mom's cooking) particularly those upper-classman with cooking facilities of their very own, may especially embrace this concept of food-centered social events. But what makes for a successful college-style dinner party? What to cook? When to serve? Who to invite?

And perhaps most importantly, why bother when you could just go out? I talked to some Hopkins students who have had or would be excited to participate in a dinner party. Maybe their suggestions will inspire you to whip out the oven mitts.

Senior Arka Deb sees such get-togethers as an economical idea. Deb jokes that while being off a University meal plan saves money in the long run, it can lead to starvation and malnourishment. He's attended about 10 potluck style dinners and feels it's "cool to split the costs" of real meals if you can "scrounge up people who know how to cook." Group grocery shopping, the frugal kind, of course, with attention paid to weekly sales and coupons, might also make the whole consumption process less laborious.

Outside of this pragmatic perspective, there are plenty of Hopkins students who see eating events as definite entertainment potential. In fact, several freshmen lamented the lack of cooking facilities in the AMRs. Nick Colombo, a freshman who "always cooked at home" is looking forward to an off campus residence where would be able to cook for others. "I'm Italian," he said. "It's hard to keep me away from food."

Junior Erica Eisenhart, a Resident Advisor, acknowledges the culinary limitations of AMR residents, but feels there are cooking options even in the small kitchens of Wolman and McCoy. "You can do a lot with two burners and a toaster. Last year I made a pot roast in my suite in McCoy," she said, agreeing that the cooking project can also be a social event. "You can even make cookies in the toaster oven. It just takes longer."

Once beyond the confines of campus housing, the possibilities are endless. Hopkins students suggested a number of dinner party ideas which can both show-off culinary prowess and provide the opportunity for variety in otherwise mundane eating routines. There is of course the around the world theme. We're all familiar with pizza and tacos, but attempting and sampling a truly foreign dish can be both a challenge and a treat. It's

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FEATURES

Maximize your workout

Eat healthfully and workout with a friend for greater AC results

BY LINDSAY SAXE

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

I don't think I'm alone when I say I've got no clue how to use some of the new machines at the Athletic Center. Okay, so they're not too difficult to figure out — I've learned that much. And it's not like most of us haven't spent a good deal of time in such workout facilities long before the Hopkins administration decided to give us someplace else to build muscle besides the library. And I'm talking skeletal and cardiac muscles — not just those cranial ones. For those of you who would like some tips from a now semi-expert workout diva (as I like to think of myself), here's a

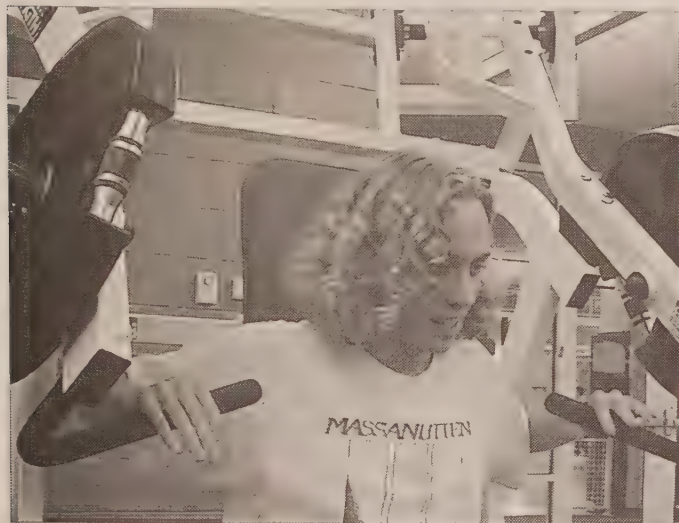
basic lifting all involve free-weights — i.e. the dumbbells located at the front of the weight room. Most guys like to bench press in order to get the full chest-shoulder-arm-ab workout, but to do this you've got to make sure you've got a spotter or you're very comfortable with the weight you're lifting. There are also machines that take away some of the precariousness of lifting free-weights. What I mean is, you're less prone to hurting yourself badly when the weight is controlled, and since a lot of times people are unsure about the correct form for lifting, it's better to start out with these until you've got a partner who can show you the ropes. Having the correct form while lifting is key to prevent-

even when every muscle in your body is screaming for mercy. Okay, maybe not, but it's nice to know that someone else is working just as hard as you. And they're good to have around as a spotter when you're pushing 200 on the bench press.

Finally, your body is only as good as the stuff you put in it. Good nutrition and a balanced diet will make your new fitness routine that much easier to handle. Scratch the sweets and empty carbs (like soda and beer) at least a day before you go to the gym. Drink plenty of water so that you're fully hydrated. The food you choose is up to you — if you want to slim down, more protein and less carbs and fat work for some people. It's kind of a toss-up as to what foods will help you build muscle and lose some flab, but it's a given that less refined sugars, complex carbohydrates and deep-fried foods will help trim your waistline. Some people like to go for the protein shakes in place of meals, but that kind of diet can be hard to switch to right away. If you want, ease it into your routine on a couple days per week basis. I've also heard from a few of my guy friends that Creatine is crap. It's good if you want to gain weight because it makes you retain water, but if you don't consistently work out, you'll just get fat. Basically, it's an inflated muscle build — not much else. It speeds up your muscle recovery, so that you can work out longer. Furthermore, a very reputable source told me that the strawberry flavor tastes like shit.

Most important of all, vary your routine. Don't do the same thing everyday, and don't push yourself too hard in the first week. Start out light and work your way up to your ideal weight. Hurting yourself while lifting weights or pushing yourself too hard during your initial aerobic exercise can lead to serious injury or illness, so be careful.

So there you go. Finish your routine with a good 10 to 15 min. of stretching and lots of water. I like to go shoot around or play some racquetball after-



EMILY NALVEN/NEWS-LETTER

The machines are good to start out with until you perfect your form.

plan almost anyone could follow.

I advise starting off light if this is your first time pushing the ol' heart rate up since the Ravens won the Super Bowl last year or since the Diamondbacks upset the Yankees back in October. There are a plethora of new aerobics classes being offered, but I'd recommend that you only use those as a starting point. Most of them are great for working those muscles in your body that you had no idea existed, but they aren't the only thing you need to do to get in shape. I've been to several of the classes, and only a few of them really get your heart going. And that's what we're going for — heart rates over 150. I've definitely felt the soreness after Hardcore Abs and Awesome '80s Cardio, yet I still felt that I could have had a more intense workout. So I would say, start out with about 20-25 minutes of aerobic exercise. By aerobic, I mean running, biking, etc. The treadmills, bikes and stair masters are all good choices. The elliptical trainers are my personal favorite when I don't feel like running for half an hour and getting nowhere. Elliptical involves a lot less impact, and you get a reasonably good workout — depending on your chosen intensity level.

Next, sit down and stretch. Make sure all those gluts, triceps and hamstrings are loose. This is a good time to head down to the weight room and start your toning or massive bodybuilding. It's good to strike a balance between the two, but hey, pick your own poison. I prefer to do extensive muscle toning — lifting lighter weights with more repetition and therefore avoiding the nightmare that one day this semester I'll wake up looking like Zena Warrior Princess. But for you guys out there, the heavier weights with less reps will hopefully give you the desired bulk-up you're going for. Bicep curls, tricep curls and

injuries and to getting the most of your workout. If you're not sure of the right way to lift, talk to the people who work there or to someone who does know what they're doing. Trust me, it's better than pulling a muscle or seriously injuring yourself.

Speaking of partners, they are a great idea for any fitness plan. I usu-



EMILY NALVEN/NEWS-LETTER

Resident Advisor Nate Young gets his workout on the climbing wall.

ally don't go to the gym without one. Unmotivated as I usually am, I find that the power of a pair can make a world of difference. They'll push you to go further and to keep working out

wards, because it does a good job of loosening the muscles you just pumped. If you need motivation to start all this just think: You're going to be seen in a bathing suit in five weeks.

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Hard liquor ads return to T.V.

BY AUDREY HENDERSON

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

If you have watched television at any point in the past several years, it is likely that you have seen at least a few of the memorable Budweiser and Miller beer commercials. The Budweiser lizard with his trademark, "Wassup," and Miller's fun, youthful parties have made alcohol advertising downright fun, not to mention profitable. Beer marketers spent more than \$500 million on television advertising last year.

But if critics thought advertising beer on television was socially irresponsible, they are up in arms about NBC's recent decision to allow hard liquor advertising for the first time in more than 50 years.

The "distilled spirits" industry, as they prefer to be called, imposed an informal, voluntary ban on radio advertisements in 1936 and extended the ban to television in 1948. Since then, advertisements for Johnnie Walker, Absolut, Jack Daniels and other distilled drinks have been restricted to magazines and newspapers. While popular beer commercials have sent beer sales soaring in the past decade, sales of distilled spirits have decreased and have left marketers frustrated with the few options available to reach large audiences.

In 1996, the distilled spirits industry began cautiously placing ads on cable and local television channels across the country. Seagram broke the ice with a Jack Daniels commercial aired in Texas, and soon other drink makers, including Bailey's Irish Cream, tapped into the idea that television advertising was a viable possibility.

Although the advertisements were few in number and were placed in local markets rather than on national networks, the industry received criticism from social watchdog groups and FCC Chairman Reed Hunt, who called for reaffirmation of the voluntary ban on television advertisements.

In a speech to the Children's Action Network in Nov. 1996, Hunt called upon "every TV licensee and cable company to just say no to the hard liquor industry's shameful campaign."

However, the distilled spirits industry continued to place a small number of ads in local markets across the U.S. as they tested the waters for further advertising expansion. It

wasn't until last year that the industry got its chance to jump to network television. Amid depressed advertising revenues due to the struggling economy and the disappearance of the big dot-com spenders, the distilled spirits industry aggressively negotiated with the networks to gain access to the airwaves. NBC decided to accept the commercials with a list

p.m. to 11 p.m. eastern time and during late-night shows such as *Saturday Night Live* and *The Tonight Show* with Jay Leno. NBC has also stipulated that no actors under the age of 30 may appear in the commercials, and athletes and entertainment figures who appeal to those under the age of 21 may not be featured.

Despite NBC's efforts to ensure



FILE PHOTO

Ubiquitous liquor ads will soon hit the airwaves on late-night T.V.

of conditions to ensure social responsibility and to prevent the advertisements from targeting youth.

NBC struck a deal with London-based Diageo PLC, the world's largest liquor company with brands including Smirnoff, Tanqueray, Bailey's Irish Cream, Johnnie Walker and Jose Cuervo, to begin airing commercials in 2001.

As part of the deal with NBC, Diageo PLC and its U.S. subsidiary Guinness UDV are required to air four months of commercials focusing on a "social responsibility theme" before general production promotion is permitted.

The first ad hit the airwaves in Dec. 2001, during a *Saturday Night Live* program and promoted the popular malt beverage Smirnoff Ice with a message for viewers who drink to make sure they have a designated driver.

As part of the conditions set forth for distilled spirit companies, NBC has limited air time for the commercials to the late prime time hours of 9

that the ads are not targeted to youth and promote a social responsibility theme, critics have been quick to denounce NBC's decision to air the ads as a step in the wrong direction.

"Ultimately, what they would be doing is preaching temperance from a bar stool," said U.S. Representative Edward Markey during an interview with MSNBC in Dec. 2001.

A number of advocacy groups and public watchdog organizations in Washington have begun to call for a federal law prohibiting the advertisement of hard liquor on television.

"The only solution now is for federal regulation, just as we have federal regulation prohibiting tobacco ads on television," said Joseph Califano, director of the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, in an interview with *The Wall Street Journal* in December.

But for now, the ads remain, and the other major television networks are watching carefully to determine if they, too, should accept the business of the distilled spirits industry.



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The new trend: retro modesty

Crossing a 90-mile cultural divide

BY ZAINAB CHEEMA
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Post-Sept. 11 we pledged ourselves anew to the little black dress, which seemed to tailor itself so exquisitely to the national mood of mourning and sleekly provide an answer to our hesitation about the appropriate. Restraint was the key and we can count the transformation of the black dress's irrepressible mystique into a symbol of solidarity as one of fashion's most imaginative triumphs.

Spring is the grand release, the exuberant outburst of color cresting out of the doldrums of depression. This is

the season where the fresh tint of new leaves gets harnessed into lime green and yellow cloth, where our skirts will flirt with turquoise or be subdued in purple, and when it will be okay to reach for pink. This is all about creating a palette of pastels, lingering over the softer shades but also not hesitating to push them to their more intense limits, their darker or brighter extremes.

This season we see a reverse of the severe, tailored equestrian and military-inspired cuts for women's jackets and skirts. From minimal, spare elegance we go to folksy romance with the upsurge of floral-print peasant blouses, A-line skirts and flared jeans. The emphasis is to slow down from the high-octane lifestyle and to toy around with the fringes on our belts and jeans, the drawstrings tying our necklines, the lace and flounces hugging our hems and move with all that extra fabric in our skirts, blouses and dresses floating around our bodies. Instead of pushing the boundaries of what constitutes femininity and what doesn't, we can relax and return to the softer contours of its pre-established meanings. Look for plaid, paisley and wild floral prints when you go hunting for this spring's must-have: the peasant blouse and skirt.

It's goodbye to both the Britney Spears inspired sex-kitten and high-powered career woman this season; they take a back-seat to the romantic, pure-girl look. Designers soften the

nudity from last fall, as skirts climb down to swish around (or even below) the knees and the belly button undergoes a total eclipse — well, perhaps not total. But shirt hems are definitely longer, reaching down over the provocative inches to just barely meet the low slung jeans and sleeves are longer and looser.

Formal dresses feature a short slip under a sheer, floaty over dress; skin is no longer a statement but a coy suggestion. The keyword is "layers." And yet, while fashion taps into the softened, more spiritual mood post Sept. 11, it hasn't been ready to completely jettison sexiness; the "in" list for spring still includes items like sleek white pants, the halter dress and a sleeveless, fitted, knee-length dress, which speak volumes about the industry's never-ending obsession with a woman's outline.

It's impossible to even attempt to write an article on American fashion without paying proper attention to jeans; so (deep breath), this spring, expect washed-out denim, low-slung waists, fringes at the edges and waist, flaring at the legs and embellishments like studs, floral patterns, embroidery, embossments, every possible variation your imagination can conjure up. And for those who are less than thrilled about the hippie revival in Spring fashions 2002, they can take refuge in the formalism of black-and-white contrast that almost all of the major labels are bringing out.

The *News-Letter* takes a look inside Castro's Cuba. The legal way.

— A photo essay by Shekar Davarya.

Events to celebrate history

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B3

(NAACP) was founded on Feb. 12; black Greensboro, N.C. college students began a sit-in at a segregated Woolworth's lunch counter on Feb. 1; and Malcolm X was assassinated on Feb. 21.

Due to Woodson's efforts, many JHU organizations like the Black Student Union celebrate Black History Month by organizing events such as speakers, luncheons and a museum tour. Since JHU does not have an African Studies program, Co-Chairs of the Black History Month Committee in the Black Student Union support initiatives that the University and other organizations have made to make this month successful.


"I remember that my elementary school celebrated Black History Month," senior Black Student Committee of the Black Students Union Co-Chair Leroy Tobias said. "The teacher assigned each of us a famous black person, and we would have to dress up like him and present a report the next day."

In promoting awareness on campus, The Black Student Committee of the Black Students Union planned events which focused on the family in their theme entitled "The Black Family: Yesterday, Today and Forever."

III

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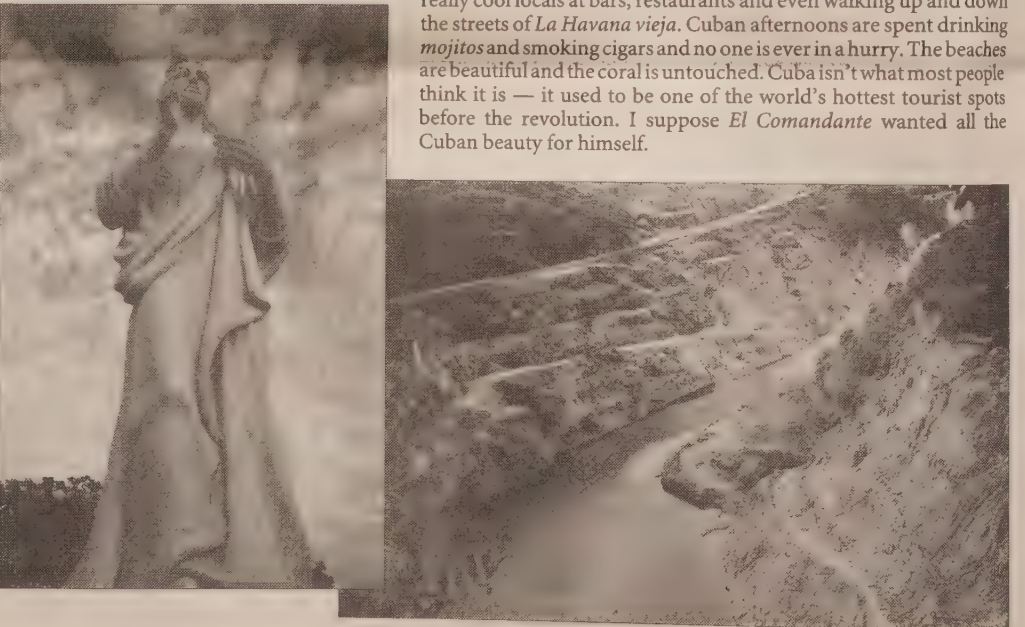
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Legally traveling to Cuba (as opposed to taking the route though Mexico or Canada) is a rare opportunity for American citizens. That is one of the perks of traveling under the name of the Johns Hopkins University. But guess what — Cubans love Americans. I met a lot of really cool locals at bars, restaurants and even walking up and down the streets of *La Havana vieja*. Cuban afternoons are spent drinking *mojitos* and smoking cigars and no one is ever in a hurry. The beaches are beautiful and the coral is untouched. Cuba isn't what most people think it is — it used to be one of the world's hottest tourist spots before the revolution. I suppose *El Comandante* wanted all the Cuban beauty for himself.



Tangents hitting various holidays

Author's Note: Due to spatio-temporal circumstances beyond my control, "Placebo Effect" didn't make it into last week's *News-Letter*. It's just one of those things that happens in journalism sometimes, one of the crosses we must bear if we are to tread the lonely road of bringing information to the public. Or whatever.

In any case, although this delay has necessitated the writing of a new column, due to the time-sensitive nature of the previous one (it addressed the propriety of my sudden interest in the New England Patriots just before their Super Bowl victory), I feel that, in the interests of fairness, I should reprint the first part of the column here.

Previously, on "Placebo Effect": Sit tight, people. There's a lot to go over today. Quite a bit has happened since I last had the floor, and I know that you, dear readers, are all just dying to hear about it. So here goes.

First, I got to actually celebrate my birthday, which I had only been able to speculate about in my last column, and I have to say that the celebration has necessitated some revisions in my previous thesis. I stand by my assertion that 22 is not, in and of itself, a significant age, and any satisfaction I derived from my birthday had nothing really to do with the age I turned. That having been said, when one's birthday involves a limo ride to D.C. and a picnic in front of the Jefferson Memorial, there's not too much that can be said against it. Plus, it was educational: In addition to learning about one of our nation's greatest presidents, I also learned that my roommate and his girlfriend make great meatballs, that Giant puts together a mean spinach dip and that nowhere will you find friends like these. You guys rule.

Well, that having been said, on with the show.

I thought about writing a Valentine's Day column this week, but that seemed a little trite. That, and it's never really been one of my favorite holidays. I used to rail against it in my antisocial youth, and even now that I've mellowed out a bit, the faint distaste still lingers. I'm not going to subject you to a diatribe about the impropriety of using a martyred saint's feast day to celebrate mushy love, because frankly, I don't care. The greeting card industry is welcome to amalgamate as many different customs and holidays as it wants. That's just good business. Plus, religious syncretization has a long and proud tradition which predates Hallmark by a long shot. After all, Alexander the Great's soldiers correlated Hindu gods with the Olympians when they reached the Indus and came into contact with the peoples there in around 326 BCE.

I guess the long and the short of that little diatribe was that this won't be a Valentine's Day column, for the reasons stated above. Besides, if I spent many more words saying that I didn't like it, certain parties might take exception.

Of course, by taking a detour to explain that, I left myself only a few hundred more words to write about the actual topic of my column this week. Unfortunately, I spent so much time and creative energy in trying to sculpt the rather disparate elements of this column into something even reasonably coherent, that as I approach deadline, I don't really have a topic, per se. For that matter, it would be with some reluctance that I would even try to launch out on a third (or is it fourth?) topic at this point, given that I've already addressed a few sharply divergent themes so far. Let this be a lesson to all you aspiring columnists out there: be aware of your tangents, lest they become your masters! Come to think of it, that almost sounds like a moral, which would certainly be a new and interesting twist for this feature. An interesting twist, and probably as good a place to end it as any.



S. BRENDAN SHORT
PLACEBO EFFECT

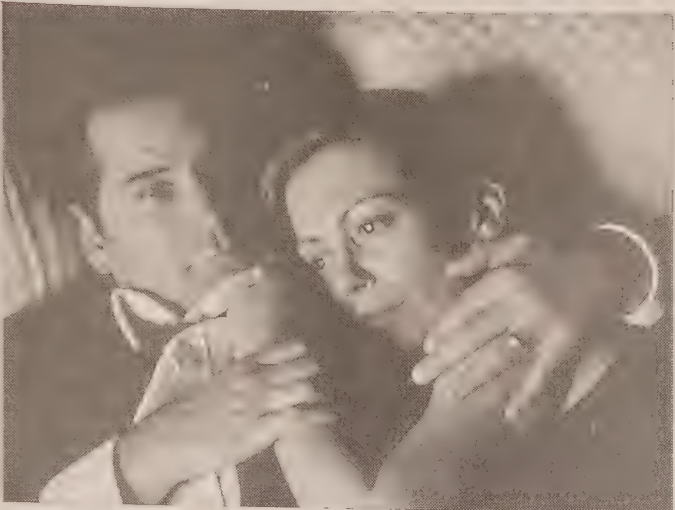
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

New thriller uses old tricks The Pepsi generation speaks

BY CAROLINE M. SAFFER
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Lantana, the latest work by director Ray Lawrence, brings to the screen that style of filming which has become so popular in the years since *Pulp Fiction*: the multi-layered plot in which the lives of four couples become intertwined through a series of dark events. The movie, named for “a genus of tropical shrub with small, colorful blooms that hides a dense, thorny undergrowth,” explores the secrets and deceptions that occur in marriages when the man and woman fail to communicate with each other.

Lantana stars Anthony LaPaglia as Leon Zat, a cop facing issues that come with reaching middle age — namely the downward spiral of his relationship with his beautiful wife, Sonja (Kerry Armstrong). Zat begins carrying on an affair with Jane (Rachel Blake), a woman from the Latin dancing class he attends with Sonja. Sonja, frustrated with the changes she is sensing in her husband, has begun to see a psychologist, Valerie Somers (an ever-sexy Barbara Hershey). Valerie, in her own turn, has been having problems with her own husband, John (Geoffrey Rush), owing principally to the emotional tension the two share over the murder of their young daughter. Meanwhile, Jane’s estranged husband (Glenn Robbins) is trying desperately to win her back; the brokenness of their relationship is particularly highlighted by the only seemingly functional couple in the film, a younger couple named Ink (Vine Colossi) and Paul (Danielle African) who live next door to Jane. This scenario alone would have been almost more than enough



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.IMDB.COM
LaPaglia and Armstrong play a troubled couple in thriller *Lantana*.

for director Lawrence to work with, but another element is thrown in

The movie, named for “a genus of tropical shrub with small, colorful blooms that hides a dense, thorny undergrowth,” explores the secrets and deceptions that occur in marriages.

panning up to a dead body, which sets the dark and tenuous mood of the movie. Each character executes his or her role precisely, displaying the physical and mental agonies that come at the middle of one’s life. Lawrence keeps a good balance of showing us glimpses of the couples’ day-to-day lives while working with the uglier themes of marital infidelity, losing a child and murder. If not a movie to run out and see in the theater, *Lantana* is a solid effort that provides an intriguing view.

Lantana is currently playing at *The Charles Theatre*, located at 1711 N. Charles St. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. nightly, as well as matinees at 2:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Sat., Sun. and Mon. For more information, call 410-727-3456 or visit <http://www.thecharles.com>.



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.IMDB.COM

when Valerie gets into a car accident and disappears one night, fateful intertwining the lives of all four couples.

Lawrence doesn’t deliver anything incredibly original, in its visual or story-telling aspects, but he carries it strongly throughout, beginning it powerfully and ending it hopefully, without becoming overly sentimental. The film opens with a moving camera that delves into the underbrush of an Australian landscape,



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.IMDB.COM

Help from Bollywood

“So much to feel! Passions so real!”
—Momus, “Superstars of Bollywood”

What the world needs right now is an epic movie musical. I know that nobody likes musicals anymore, and that the only humane epics of recent note are mock-epics, but hear me out for a moment.

In 1975, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* grabbed the American musical by the balls and brought it crashing down to an untimely death. *Rocky Horror*, though tolerable for the first 30 minutes or so, murdered the American movie musical in the process. In its aftermath, America suffered through a succession of ghastly

that Missy and Timbaland ripped off the subcontinent, but they haven’t ripped it off enough. If any progress is to be made in American musical film, then the only reasonable solution is a Bolly-Hollywood musical that tears away from the jingoistic muck that the popular national cinemas of both countries continue to pump out indiscriminately.

J. Hoberman in the *Village Voice* made a frightening comparison last fall when he applied Siegfried Kracauer’s analysis of Weimar film to the American medium and Sept. 11. Kracauer wrote, “Germany carried out what had been anticipated by her cinema from its very beginning. It was all as it had been on the screen.”

If the same is true for Indian and American popular film production, then it looks like Orwellian war cultures and the cinema of explosion aren’t disappearing any time soon. Wretched Indian popular films like the 1990s flick *Roja* combine Leni Riefenstahl-like musical interludes with silly flag-waving and disturbing, inhumane portraits of their Pakistani neighbors. In America, one of the chart-topping films right now is *Black Hawk Down*, a suitable precursor to the next War on Somalia that film critic Armond White has called a “war movie presenting status-quo thoughtlessness through streamlined, subtly racist propaganda.”

And this state-approved instructive cinema is supposed to be entertaining? In the best Bollywood films, music and dance transcend rather than reinforce the violence of the plot. Hindi star Asha observed near the end of the great 1965 thriller *Gumnaam* that her piano-playing became a way to subvert the encroaching fright around her. Somewhat arbitrary music-dance interludes in the middle of films may not fly for American audiences, but why not give it a try? So c’mon Missy, let’s have a pop opera. And let’s keep Baz Luhrmann out of this one.

MATTO'BRIEN ON THE WAY TO THE BUS

musical theater pieces that thankfully never made it to the silver screen (*Les Miserables*, *Rent*).

Bollywood is the only thing that can save Hollywood right now, and Missy Elliot is the only thing that can save Bollywood. I know this may seem an implausible proposal in print, but so was the 3-D version of *Kiss Me, Kate*.

Oh wait, but nobody remembers the 3-D version of *Kiss Me, Kate*? Does that mean this Bolly-Hollywood plan is predestined to fail? Not necessarily. See, when Missy Elliot makes a Bollywood-style musical, nobody’s going to forget it. She already has some Bollywood street cred, according to <http://www.koolindians.com>, who say that “the first single from the album, ‘Get Ur Freak On,’ is a strange mixing of Bollywood tabla, vocal swoops and irregular rapping. Even the use of house beat in ‘4 My People’ is quite a bold step as house music is popular only with the American gays.”

Uh, ok. But anyway, the point is

As Pepsi furiously campaigned for the top Super Bowl commercial with their Britney Spears spots, it raised questions as to the direction of its marketing strategy. Sure, Pepsi was flexing its muscles at the biggest showcase in the world by featuring the top female pop star, but how effective was it to push the concept behind the slogan so vehemently? Different Britneys throughout the decades? Come on. Listen, they’ve had this “The Next Generation” slogan for quite a while now, why not think creatively about the campaign instead of getting the cheap Britney hype? I would have much rather seen a commercial to the tune of P.O.D.’s “Youth of a Nation” with a massive group of Generation 9-11 kids singing, the words... “We are, we are... the Next Generation.”

• MTV has always had a thing for repetition, but some things it just pushes too far. IFMTV doesn’t change its between-video intro screens soon,

I’m going to find that subway in the woods and burn down all the trees.

• First the sports world watched as Mario Lemieux and Michael Jordan came out of retirement to save their respective sports. Now the rap world is watching as two of its own come back from obscurity to save their

genre. As the Ja Rules, the Puffys, the Nellys and the Jay-Zs push forward an ever-expanding hip-hop world, strongholds Master P and Nas are forging valiant campaigns for the re-birth of their own camps. Master P chose “Ooohhhwee,” a song with a much lighter feel than we’re using to hearing from the General, as the first release off his new album *Game Face*. Will this type of song be able to push

the much harder image of the No Limit Soldiers? And Nas, fresh off his radio duel victory over Jay-Z, has put out “Got Ur Self A...” with a video that makes sure we don’t forget about Tupac and Biggie. Will the release, which looks to be his biggest hit since “If I Ruled the World,” be able to once again raise interest in the artists from the days of the rap wars?

• Incubus is beginning to establish quite a large pop status with the release of its last two songs... “Wish You Were Here” and “Nice to Know You.” But much like the earlier radio smash “Pardon Me,” Incubus seems to be falling into a rut by using cliché phrases and postcard sayings as songs names. Here are my top five suggestions for track titles on Incubus’ next album:

1. Hello, Pleased to Meet You
2. To Whom It May Concern
3. I (heart) NY
4. Keep In Touch
5. Someone Went to Florida and All They Bought Me Was This Lousy T-Shirt.

BRIAN DAVIS BIT THEORY

Coen brothers movie revived in concert at the D.A.R. in D.C.

BY AARON GLAZER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The music from *O Brother Where Art Thou*, the Coen brothers’ depression-era film based on Homer’s *The Odyssey*, has inspired a new generation of Americans to listen to what is commonly known as bluegrass music. The music, which is almost like country western music without the wailing and whining, has its roots in the backwaters of America. It has long been celebrated in states like Tennessee and the Carolinas, and now there are bluegrass festivals ranging from Gettysburg, Pa. to Winfield, Kan. The music, an integral part of the Coen brothers’ script, was turned into an extremely successful soundtrack. And, as any good Hollywood team does, the brothers took it one step further: a signing tour.

Held at the Daughters of the American Revolution’s Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C., the “Down from the Mountain” concert featured nearly all of the original recording artists off of the *O Brother Where Art Thou* soundtrack, as well as a few additional stars thrown in for good measure. Unlike today’s flashy Britneyesque pop concerts, the show was a throwback to the days of simple presentations of complex music. The show played like a folk music festival, with performers wandering on and off the stage, joining other groups and having a merry old time, with not much real concern for the “script” that was to oversee the evening. The musicians were generally dressed casually — as if they were going out for a bite to eat. A few, especially the younger performers, wore their Sunday best. The stage was covered with a simple throw rug and, with the exception of three or four moving colored lights behind the stage, the only thing on the stage beside the performers were the microphones.

Playing to a sold-out crowd, the bluegrass musicians performed all the songs from the soundtrack, although not necessarily with the original casts. The “real” Soggy Bottom Boys — a group put together by the Coen brothers to sing where George Clooney could not — turned out to give a performance of their show stopping “I Am a Man of Constant Sorrow.” But, they didn’t stop there. Along with a number of the top bluegrass musicians — Alison Krauss, Emmylou Harris and Ralph Stanley, among them — they rotated in and out of the



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.AMAZON.COM
With a movie, CD and concert, *O Brother Where Art Thou?* is becoming an empire. What’s next, action figures?

performances, serving as vocals, background and general musical talents for songs from the rest of the soundtrack. With the exception of a few groups — The Peasall Sisters, the young ‘uns who sang for the young girls in the movie, and the amazing

try/western signer who was not on the original *O Brother* soundtrack. Loveless, who was the only one who seemed dressed to perform, exuded a smugness. At one point, when her violinist ended up getting more applause than she did — not to mention

Fairfield Four — there seemed to be no set performance lists. In general, the musicians performed the songs they were credited with on the album, but the backup musicians roamed in and out haphazardly, disappearing one moment and reappearing the next. As one performer noted on the stage, “You never know who’s going to be backing you up next.”

Several of the songs warrant special mention. Alison Krauss’ performance of “Down in the River to Pray” expressed the same enticing rhythmic sense as it did in the movie, drawing the audience and the listeners down to the river, along with all those awaiting absolution. Best of all, with their melodic baritones, were the Fairfield Four — a group of five elderly African-American men whose voices would put James Earl Jones to shame. Their performance of “Lonesome Valley” could not have failed to inspire soul searching among most in the audience.

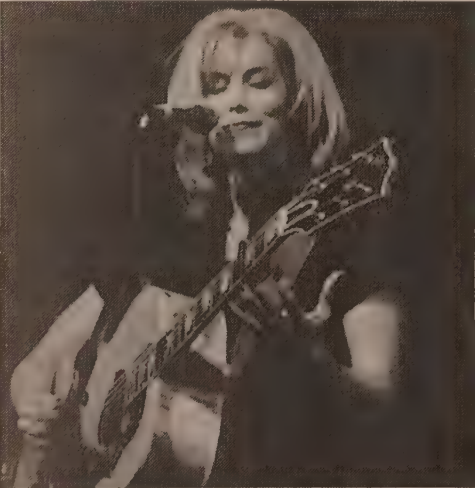
a catcall — she hollered at the audience, “settle down there.” Her performance seemed uninspired and reeked too much of the self-pitying whining that marks country western music.

With the exception of Loveless, the performance was fantastic. It’s nice to see a group of performers who are so comfortable with their music, and their attitudes, that they can relax and let what really matters come out in a show: the music. Although the “Down with the Mountain Tour” has moved on, to play sold-out shows throughout the country, bluegrass music seems to be in a state of revival.

According to the tour’s Web site, <http://www.downfromthemountain.com>, the upcoming music from *O Brother Where Art Thou* concerts are expected to be the first in a series of tours bringing great performers and songs from American musical history to venues across the country. There’s a lot more bluegrass music out there — and we’ll be hearing a lot more of it, if this concert is any indication.



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.ALISONKRAUSS.COM
“Down from the Mountain” singer Alison Krauss.



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.LYCOS.COM
Emmylou Harris performed at the *O Brother Where Art Thou?* concert in Washington, D.C.

CMJ TOP 20 CHART FEB. 11, 2002

- 1) CHEMICAL BROTHERS Come With Us (Astralwerks)
- 2) I AM SAM Soundtrack (V2)
- 3) BAD RELIGION PROCESS OF BELIEF (Epitaph)
- 4) GET UP KIDS Eudora (Vagrant)
- 5) NEIL HALSTEAD Sleeping On Roads (4AD-Beggars Group)
- 6) AVALANCHES Since I Left You (London-Sire)
- 7) SMASHING PUMPKINS Rotten Apples - Greatest Hits (Virgin)
- 8) SNEAKER PIMPS Blood Sport (Tommy Boy)
- 9) DE LA SOUL AOI: Bionix (Tommy Boy)
- 10) HEFNER Dead Media (Too Pure-Beggars Group)
- 11) CRANES Future Songs (Instinct)
- 12) CORNELIUS Point (Matador)
- 13) ZERO 7 Simple Things (Quango-Palm)
- 14) SOUTH From Here On In (Kinetic)
- 15) MOTH Like A Butterfly ‘Cept Different (EP) (Virgin)
- 16) AZURE RAY November (Saddle Creek)
- 17) STARSAILOR Love Is Here (Capitol)
- 18) SUNSHINE FIX Age of the Sun (Emperor Norton-Kindercore)
- 19) ALKALINE TRIO/HOT WATER MUSIC Split EP (Jade Tree)
- 20) BELLE AND SEBASTIAN I’m Waking Up To Us (EP) (Matador)

COMPILED BY CAROLINE M. SAFFER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Timely exhibit portrays persecution and liberation

BY COURTNEY RICE
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

February is Black History Month, and so the Baltimore Museum of Art has chosen to commemorate African-American artistic achievement with a special exhibit, "Looking Forward/Looking Black." On display from Feb. 6 to May 5, it is a contemporary reexamination of the ways African-Americans have been portrayed in art, mass media and twentieth century pop culture.

"The black body has been everywhere in evidence in painting, film, photography — even cookie jars and lawn ornaments — and at the same time been rendered invisible," said exhibition curator Jo Anna Isaak. In the process of re-seeing what was intended to go unnoticed, these artists are engaged in undoing a whole system of denial and, at the same time, reconstructing and reclaiming images of selfhood on their own terms."

This powerful exhibition includes 45 paintings, prints, photographs and sculptures by over twenty artists. Many prominent and influential African-American artists are represented within the exhibit and in the regular collections, including Kara Walker, Gordon Parks and Jacob Lawrence.

Some of the works on display are extremely moving, as they depict the persecution of African-Americans throughout history. Alison Saar's sculpture, *Strange Fruit*, is a wrenching display of the strange fruit of the South during the Jim Crow era, when African-Americans were often lynched by angry mobs. Kara Walker uses silhouettes and projected images to create unique interpretations of slavery, including *Salvation*, which is part of the BMA's permanent collection. Glenn Ligon's painting, *Untitled*, gives weight and force to the written word, depicting black stenciled letters about the "peculiar disposition" of black invisibility.

minstrelsy of earlier times. Her beautiful creations alleviate the ugliness of blackface minstrelsy with poignant humor.

A final aspect of the collection are the works which highlight African-American liberation. The most inspirational artist featured is Bill Traylor, a former slave who began painting folk art in 1939, when he was 85 years old. One of the most liberating and eye-catching works is Renee Cox's *The Liberation of Lady J and U.B.* It depicts three young, strong, and powerful black superheroes emerging from, and thus emancipating, racial stereotypes, Aunt Jemima and Uncle Ben.

A personal favorite in the collection is the set of three photographs by Gordon Parks. His black-and-white images of Harlem scenes evoke strong emotions and resonate with artistic brilliance.

The BMA is presenting several programs in conjunction with the exhibition to encourage and stimulate dialogue on the challenging issues presented in the artwork. On Feb. 17, at 2 p.m., there will be a gallery talk on "African Heritage, American Expression." Also, there is a panel discussion on March 2, at 2 p.m., which will feature curator Isaak, as well as artists Michael Ray Charles, Cox and McIver.

"Looking Forward/Looking Black" is a powerful and timely tribute to African-Americans. The price can't be beat (admission is free for college students with ID), and the BMA is conveniently located adjacent to campus, so there is no reason to miss this fantastic exhibit.



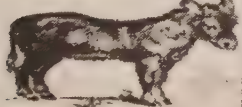
COURTESY OF THE BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART
Renee Cox's *The Liberation of Lady J and U.B.*

markproject

theatre + life

The gospels are old stories, and they're good stories. But often it seems like they're told from a distance, from gilt-edged Bibles by guys in robes and fancy voices. What would it be like to hear the people who were around Jesus, right there, face-to-face—what would it be like to hear them talk right to us? We can't get all the way there, but Mark, a first-century writer, worked really hard to help people get a clear picture of what was going on in and around Jesus and his crowd, and what it all meant. And it wasn't boring.

This project is a theatre performance of Mark's gospel. It's not word for word Bible, but it is true to Mark's intent, his angles, and the voices of the community that formed the story. It's based on fifteen years of intensive study in and living with Mark. We think you'll like it. It's probably not like anything you've ever seen before, even if you've seen 'Christian theatre'.



ROBSON & DONKEY
Daniel Jones
IVCF staff at Franklin & Marshall College in Pennsylvania and Actor at large. Daniel graduated with a degree in theatre performance from Moravian College and trained at the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco. He has acted professionally for many years and is also a worship leader.
Alison Stewart
IVCF staff in the Mid-Atlantic Region. A graduate of Occidental College in Los Angeles, Alison trains new staff as well as writing for theatre, teaching, mentoring artists, and leading worship (including at Urbana '93 and '96). She is at work on her second book. She and her husband Dan Stewart have two sons.

Friday, February 15th

7:30 PM

Mudd Auditorium

Free Admission

sponsored by Hopkins Christian Fellowship



after this, the corporate ladder will be a piece of [cake].

In the course of facing challenges like this, you'll learn how to think on your feet. Stay cool under pressure. Take charge. Talk to an Army ROTC rep. You'll find there's nothing like a little climbing to help prepare you for getting to the top.



ARMY ROTC Unlike any other college course you can take.

Play promotes social awareness

BY AUDREY HENDERSON
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

It has been called "a bona fide phenomenon" by *The New York Times* and "alternately funny, poetic and provocative" by *Entertainment Weekly*. Actresses Marisa Tomei, Glenn Close, Whoopi Goldberg, Winona Ryder, Cate Blanchett and Kate Winslet have performed it.

What is it? It's an award-winning play about vaginas.

The Vagina Monologues was written by Eve Ensler, who interviewed more than 200 real women to demystify the conflicted feelings that women have with their vaginas. The play debuted in New York in 1996 and has since traveled across the United States and to more than 25 countries. After sold-out performances in New York and London, Ensler decided to use her work for a greater purpose by founding V-Day in 1998 to combat violence against women.

V-Day is essentially the day or week around Valentine's Day when a number of events, campaigns and performances are held to benefit groups that help women. The events are centered around the performance of *The Vagina Monologues*. V-Day has quickly become a cult classic on college campuses and in cities around America. In 2001, a sold-out V-Day performance of *The Vagina Monologues* was performed at Madison Square Gardens and more than 300 college campuses hosted performances of the play.

Juniors Casey Weinberg and J.R.

Williams were inspired to bring V-Day to Johns Hopkins after reading *The Vagina Monologues* during the summer while they were working together to plan freshman orientation. After consulting with administrators, they registered the university with the V-Day organization and began recruiting volunteers to help plan for the week of events in February.

"Our vision was for V-Day not to be attached to a specific group," said Weinberg, who is co-chairing the events with Williams. "We wanted a lot of people to get involved."

And so they have. V-Day at Johns Hopkins has become an unprecedented collaboration including students from a variety of interests and groups. Education, publicity, fundraising and production committees were assembled to oversee the efforts, and auditions were conducted for the cast of *The Vagina Monologues*.

"It's very different than other shows I've done," said Robin Ganek, a freshman who is directing the play. "It's not all theater people, so they bring something different in reading the monologues than an experienced actress would."

The cast of *The Vagina Monologues* includes 16 women, including some who have never performed on stage before. This, Ganek said, is because "people are seriously interested in the cause."

Ganek called *The Vagina Monologues* "an excellent example of an emerging trend that combines education and theater" and said that she hopes

the play will broaden the minds of those who attend.

"I think this campus could use some enlightenment," said Sara Marten, who is producing the play and said that she did not fully realize how widespread violence, emotional and sexual abuse was until she became involved with V-Day efforts.

Weinberg agrees and said that the play raises awareness that there are people who want to stand up for women.

"This [performance] will give everyone a better understanding of women and will help women better understand themselves," she said.

Marten said that in addition to spreading awareness on campus of the many issues facing women, V-Day organizers also hope to raise more than \$2,000 for the House of Ruth, a shelter for abused women in Baltimore.

Co-Chair J.R. Williams said that V-Day brings a national campaign down to the local level and gives Johns Hopkins students an opportunity to support women and children in Baltimore.

"We are giving direct support to women who need it," he said. "The play is not only an art, it promotes equality among all genders and races."

The *Vagina Monologues* will be performed at the Swirnow Theater. Showtimes are 8 p.m. on Thurs., Feb. 14; Fri., Feb. 15; and Sat., Feb. 16. Tickets are \$5 and proceeds go to the House of Ruth and to support Afghan women.

TOP MOVIES

FEB. 11, 2002

1) Collateral Damage

2) Big Fat Liar

3) Rollerball

4) Black Hawk Down

5) Snow Dogs

6) The Count of Monte Cristo

7) A Beautiful Mind

8) A Walk to Remember

9) The Mothman Prophecies

10) I Am Sam

11) Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring

12) Monster's Ball

13) Gosford Park

14) In the Bedroom

15) The Royal Tenenbaums

16) King Pow!: Enter the Fist

17) Brotherhood of the Wolf

18) Birthday Girl

19) Slackers

20) Orange County

COMPILED BY

CAROLINE M. SAFFER

John P. Barlow

"The Thomas Jefferson of Cyberspace"
(Yahoo! Internet Life Magazine)

--Co-Founder and Vice-Chairman of the Electronic Frontier Foundation

--Fellow with the Institute of Politics at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government


John Perry Barlow is a former Wyoming rancher and Grateful Dead lyricist. After being educated in a one-room schoolhouse in Wyoming he went on to graduate from Wesleyan University with an honors degree in Comparative Religion. In 1990 he and Mitchell Kapor founded the Electronic Frontier Foundation, an organization that promotes freedom of expression in digital media. Barlow is a writer and lecturer on subjects relating to computer security, Virtual Reality, and the social and legal implications arising from the global network of connected digital devices. He's probably the only former Republican County Chairman in America willing to call himself a hippie mystic without lowering his voice. (Taken from <http://www.eff.org>)

He will speak at Hopkins:
March 7th, 12 Noon
Maddin Center 101


For info, check www.jhuisi.jhu.edu

CARTOONS, ETC.


your Horoscope




ARIES: (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)
Valentine's Day will take an unexpected turn as you choke on a piece of candy and suffer an allergic reaction to a bouquet of roses.




TAURUS: (APRIL 20-MAY 20)
Day in and day out, you bust your hump to get ahead. Now that you're a little bit comfortable, you will lose it all in a freak bagel-related accident.




GEMINI: (MAY 21-JUNE 20)
Makes and models of new cars will be of little use to you when you lose your license after an ill-advised arm-wrestling bout with a highway patrolman.




CANCER: (JUNE 21-JULY 22)
Me me me. Is that all you think about? Fortunately, your selfishness will pay off when you get to the last round of *Survivor IV*.




LEO: (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)
Hate the daily grind of being a college student? Would you rather be a child-warrior in the jungles of Congo? I thought not.




VIRGO: (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)
Public nudity will be a good bet for you next week. In addition, you will win tickets to a Wizards game. Put two and two together.




LIBRA: (SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22)
Displays in department store windows are almost a good place to sleep, but not as good as the neanderthal display case at the Museum of Natural History.




SCORPIO: (OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21)
Of all the possible ways to get an STD, the seat of the Gilman basement bathroom won't be one you give much consideration.




SAGITTARIUS: (NOVEMBER 22 - DEC. 21)
Affection is all well and good, but showing it to a TA in the form of sexual favors might be going too far. Sure, you'll ace the class, but what about your self-respect?



CAPRICORN: (DEC. 23 - JANUARY 19)
So many times have I asked myself, "what reason do Capricorns have to live?" I finally have an answer: cheap labor for Virgos.



AQUARIUS: (JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18)
Much love to all my Aquarius peeps. Next week, you will give a shout out to you high school geometry teacher on an urban format radio station.



PISCES: (FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20)
More than you will ever know, the phrase "Sizzle my Bizzle" will summarize the reason you can't get people to lend you money.

THE HOP

by mahnu davar



JANIZARY 7

by eric ha



FILLER

by somebody



GALLERY

by eric ha



Thursday, February 14

ON CAMPUS

12:00 p.m. **Martin Luther King, Jr. Luncheon** in the Clipper Room of Shriver Hall. Black History month 2002.

4:00 p.m. **E-Level Movies!** Superman in E-Level!

6:00 p.m. **Physicians for Human Rights** in Gilman 16. Come and learn how you can get involved in this dynamic Nobel Prize winning organization!

8:00 p.m. **“The Vagina Monologues”** in Swirnow Theater. It’s coming... I know I’m excited!

OFF CAMPUS

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. **Senior Walk** at Gwynns Falls Trail. Open to senior citizens. For more information, call 410-396-0440.

Great Blacks in Maryland Heritage Tour. Guided bus tour, birthplace of Thurgood Marshall, Morgan State, Billie holiday statue, Harriet Tubman, Great Blacks in Wax museum, payment in advance. For more information, call 410-484-5600.

Sabrina (1954) at Weinberg Center for the Arts. A wonderful love story for Valentine’s Day. For more information, call 301-228-2828.

Valentine Dinner Cruise at the Inner Harbor. Delicious buffet, beer wine and soft drinks; DJ for dancing. For more information, call 1-800-695-BOAT.

Romance After Dark at Boordy Vineyards. Treat your sweetie to a candle light affair featuring elegant hors d’oeuvres complemented by Boordy wines, our own champagne and freshly shucked oysters. Reservations required. For more information, call 410-592-5015 or visit <http://www.boordy.com>.

Friday, February 15

ON CAMPUS

4:00 p.m. **E-Level Movies** Come see Superman in E-Level!

5:00 p.m. **Blue Key Society Applications and Interviews!** In Garland Hall. Want to be a tour guide?

6:00 p.m. **E-Level Happy Hour!** Food, music, prizes and more!

OFF CAMPUS

12:00 p.m. **Ship as a Machine Tour** on the USS Constellation. Learn how wooden ships, iron men and new technology came together on a 19th century man-of-war. Get a deck-by-deck description of the inner workings. For more information, call 410-530-1797 or visit <http://www.constellation.com>.

7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m. **Starry Skies** at Gwynns Falls Trail. Family fun. For more information, call 410-396-0440.

37th Annual Maryland Recreational Vehicle Show at the Maryland State Fairgrounds. Display of 300+ recreational vehicles, campground booths, RV parts and supplies. Open weekends only. For more information, call 410-561-7323.

19th Annual Seaside Boat Show at Ocean City Convention Center. Boats, boat accessories; Eastern Shore’s largest boat show; the boat show that works for children.

Doug Stone at Weinberg Center for the Arts. One of country music’s favorite artists. For more information, call 301-228-2828.

Ella Shields: The Woman Behind the Man at Creative Alliance. Harriett Lynn’s performance as Ella Shields is energetic, entertaining and educational, a dynamic and thought provoking story! For more information, call 410-276-1651.

What’s it to You? at Maryland Historical Society. What’s it to you? Black History is American History. “This exhibit presents highlights of African American life an achievement in Maryland from the late 1600s through 2000. For more information, call 410-685-3750 or visit <http://www.mdhs.org>.

“Let Freedom Ring” at Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. The 16th annual State of Maryland tribute to Dr. Martin Luther king, Jr. with Leslie B. Dunner leading the BSO, pianist Terrence Wilson and the With One Voice Ecumenical Choir.

Stepfest at the Baltimore Arena. National Stepteam Competition! For more information, call 410-347-2010.

Great Blacks in Maryland Heritage Tour. Guided bus tour, birthplace of Thurgood Marshall, Morgan State, Billie holiday statue, Harriet Tubman, Great Blacks in Wax museum, payment in advance. For more information, call 410-484-5600.

Princess Tam Tam at Walters Art Museum. Featuring the film starring Josephine Baker as a Tunisian shepherd girl who is discovered by a French writer. For more information, call 410-547-9000.

Hard Rock Cafe Live Music at Hard Rock Cafe at The Power Plant. Featuring Thrill. For more information, call 410-347-7625.

Saturday, February 16

ON CAMPUS

8:00 p.m. **“The Vagina Monologues”** in Swirnow Theater. It’s coming... I know I’m excited!

8:00 p.m. **Sankofa African Dance Troupe** in Shriver Auditorium. Black History Month 2002.

OFF CAMPUS

7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **32nd Street Farmers Market** in Waverly. A non-profit organization offering membership to shoppers, farmers and community residents. For more information, call 410-889-8095.

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **Ship Shape Days** on the USS Constellation. Volunteer to help preserve one of America’s great historic treasures, the only Civil War era vessel afloat. Volunteers and staff work together! For more information, call 410-530-1797 or visit <http://www.constellation.org>.

10:00 a.m. **Musical Kids, Musical Adventures Series** at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. Do your children have dreams of becoming musicians? Hear stories of BSO members who were musicians as a child and grew up to join the symphony! For more information, call 410-783-8100.

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **Families Appreciating Nature** at Gwynns Falls Trail. For more information, call 410-396-0440.

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **Third Saturday Nature Hike** at Carrie Murray Nature Center. Join the monthly hike and explore nature’s many seasonal changes. For more information, call 410-396-0808.

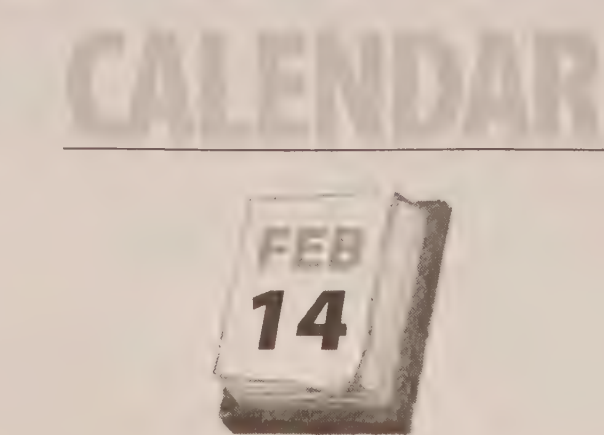
1:00 p.m. **Family Festival: African-American Arts!** at the Maryland Historical Society. Dance, sing and celebrate creativity and enjoy a multimedia extravaganza while learning about the contributions of African-Americans in arts and culture in Maryland. For more information, call 410-685-3750 or visit <http://www.mdhs.org>.

1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. **Power Monkey Tour for Kids** on the *USS Constellation*. Be a member of *Constellations* crew on the Powder Monkey Tour for Kids. Try on uniforms and learn about life on board through hands-on activities. For more information, call 410-530-1797 or visit <http://www.constellation.org>.

2:00 p.m. **Adinkra Stamping from Ghana** at the Enoch Pratt Central Library. Representatives from the African Art Museum of Maryland introduce children to the art of adinkra stamping and Chanaian culture. For more information, call 410-396-5402.

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **African American Surgeons During the Civil War** at the *USS Constellation*. Living history interpreter Larry Denny provides an in depth account of the unknown role of African-American, commissioned surgeons in both Union and Confederate armies. For more information, call 410-530-1797 or visit <http://www.constellation.org>.

3:00 p.m. **Dreams Realized!** at Enoch Pratt Library Reisterstown Road Branch. Meet a panel of new authors presented in partnership with Sibanye, Inc. For more information, call 410-396-5402.



FEBRUARY 14 TO 20

8:00 p.m. **Peabody at the Meyerhoff.** Featuring Peabody Symphony Orchestra, Peabody Chamber Singers, Peabody Concert Singers and Peabody Hopkins Chorus. For more information, call 410-783-8100.

8:00 p.m. **The Moeller Duo** at the Baltimore Museum of Art. “A thoughtfully modeled, technically silken performance,” as written by The Sun. For more information, call 410-247-5320.

Laurel Park’s Winter SprintFest at Laurel Park Race Track. Live thoroughbred racing featuring two venerable sprint races: the Barbara Fritchie and General George. For more information, call 301-725-0400.

Annual Flea Market and Boat Show at Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company. New and used fishing and boating items at rock bottom prices. For more information, call 410-HEY-FISH.

President’s Day Antique Weekend at The Maryland Antiques Center. Costumes, “Period Music”, storewide sales, cherry pies given away to raffle drawing winners, tea room open. For more information, call 301-475-1960.

Ambassadors of Service at the B&O Railroad Museum. Profram featuring the traditions and role of African-American railroad employees at work and in society. For more information, call 410-752-2490.

Washington Monument Cherry Pie Hike at Washington Monument State Park. 3-mile hike, south on the Appalachian Trail; participants receive a cherrypie and cocoa. For more information, call 301-791-4767.

The Growing Griots at Enoch Pratt Library Walbrook Road Branch. A presentation of stories, poems and proverbs accompanied by drumming and dancing. For more information, call 410-396-5494.

Mardi Gras at American Visionary Art Museum. A very Baltimore, very visionary party with the usual and unusual suspects. For more information, call 410-244-1900.

Great Blacks in Maryland Heritage Tour. Guided bus tour, birthplace of Thurgood Marshall, Morgan State, Billie holiday statue, Harriet Tubman, Great Blacks in Wax museum, payment in advance. For more information, call 410-484-5600.

What’s it to You? at Maryland Historical Society. What’s it to you? Black History is American History. “This exhibit presents highlights of African American life an achievement in Maryland from the late 1600’s through 2000. For more information, call 410-685-3750 or visit <http://www.mdhs.org>.

Sunday February 17

ON CAMPUS

No Events Reported

OFF CAMPUS

12:00 p.m. **Discount Sundays** at the Baltimore Museum of Industry. Bring the whole family and receive half-price admission. For more information, call 410-727-4808, x132.

2:00 p.m. **Talk: African Heritage, American Expression** at the Baltimore Museum of Art. Explore the world of art from African masks to contemporary sculpture and examine how both African and African-American artists use color, pattern and abstraction. For more information, call 410-396-7100.

3:30 p.m. **Youth Festival** at Second Presbyterian Church. This annual event features the Maryland State Boychoir. For more information, call 410-719-7357.

5:00 p.m. **The Chris Potter Quartet** at the Baltimore Museum of Art. Featuring Grammy nominated Chris Potter on saxophone. For more information, call 410-385-5888.

7:30 p.m. **The Temptations in Concert** at the Baltimore Arena. The tempting Temptations live and in concert. For more information, call 410-347-2010.

Blacks, The Invisible Movie Doctors at Enoch Pratt Central Library. Dr. Peter Dans shows clips from some of the more noteworthy films featuring black doctors. For more information, call 410-396-5402.

What’s it to You? at Maryland Historical Society. What’s it to you? Black History is American History. “This exhibit presents highlights of African American life an achievement in Maryland from the late 1600’s through 2000. For more information, call 410-685-3750 or visit <http://www.mdhs.org>.

Reflections of Sea and Light at Baltimore Museum of Art. Paintings and Watercolors of J.M.W. Turner from the Tate. 103 watercolors, oil paintings, drawings and prints—many never before exhibited. For more information, call 410-396-7100.

Laurel Park’s Winter SprintFest at Laurel Park Race Track. Live thoroughbred racing featuring two venerable sprint races: the Barbara Fritchie and General George. For more information, call 301-725-0400.

The Age of Impressionism at The Walters Art Museum. European Masterpieces from Ordrupgaard, Copenhagen. Of the finest holdings of 19th-century French paintings. For more information, call 410-547-9000.

Annual Flea Market and Boat Show at Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company. New and used fishing and boating items at rock bottom prices. For more information, call 410-HEY-FISH.

President’s Day Antique Weekend at The Maryland Antiques Center. Costumes, “Period Music”, storewide sales, cherry pies given away to raffle drawing winners, tea room open. For more information, call 301-475-1960.

Monday, February 18

ON CAMPUS

12:00 p.m. **Luncheon with OLE** in Clipper Room. Black History Month 2002.

9:00 p.m. **Co-ed Business Fraternity Information Session** in the Glass Pavilion. Wings Night Extravaganza! Open to everyone!

OFF CAMPUS

Maryland Kennel Club All-Breed Dog Show at the Fifth Regiment Armory. 140+ breeds of AKC-registered dogs, food, vendors selling dog-related items on upper and lower levels. For more information, call 410-252-1057.

What’s it to You? at Maryland Historical Society. What’s it to you? Black History is American History. “This exhibit presents highlights of African American life an achievement in Maryland from the late 1600’s through 2000. For more information, call 410-685-3750 or visit <http://www.mdhs.org>.

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Tuesday, February, 19

ON CAMPUS

7:00 p.m. **Explore International Careers** in the Great Hall. Panel Discussion.

7:00 p.m. **Business Fraternity Rush** in the AMR I Multipurpose room. Professional Event and Ice Cream Sundae Social!

11:00 p.m. **Resumes and Cover Letters 202: Lab** in the Career Center. Jave an employer critique your resume and cover letter.

OFF CAMPUS

10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. **Tails ‘N’ Trails** at Gwynns Falls Trail. Program for children aged 305 years. For more information, call 410-396-0440.

6:30 p.m. **A Celebration of African-American Dancers** at Enoch Pratt Library Govans Branch. Explore and celebrate the achievements of African-American dancers through fill, books and a little of “the old soft shoe.” For more information, call 410-396-5494.

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The Age of Impressionism at The Walters Art Museum. European Masterpieces from Ordrupgaard, Copenhagen. Of the finest holdings of 19th-century French paintings. For more information, call 410-547-9000.

Blast! at the Lyric Opera House. A unique musical and theatrical performance featuring brass, percussion and visual performers.

Wednesday, February 20

ON CAMPUS

No events reported

OFF CAMPUS

6:00 p.m. **Come Fly With Me** at Enoch Pratt Library Northwood Branch. A program of African contemporary and original stories and poems by storyteller Janice Green. For more information, 410-396-5494.

7:30 p.m. **Peabody Wind Ensemble** at Friedberg Hall at Peabody Conservatory. Featuring conductor Harlan Parker and Russell Rolen on cello. For more information, call 410-659-8100.

MaMa Olu at Enoch Pratt Library Forest Park Branch. A dancer and percussionist who brings three decades of storytelling experience to her joyful and powerful performance.

Japanese Woodblock Prints at Baltimore Museum of art. An exhibition of 18th and early 19th-century Japanese prints and books. For more information, call 4103-96-6314. For more information, call 410-396-6314.

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NIGHTLIFE CLUBS

8x10, 8-10 East Cross St., 410-625-2000
Baja Beach Club, 55 Market Pl., 410-727-0468
Bohagers, 701 S. Eden St., 410-563-7220
Brass Monkey, 1601 Eastern Ave., 410-522-0784
Buddies Pub and Jazz Club, 313 N. Charles St., 410-332-4200
Cat’s Eye Pub, 1730 Thames St., 410-276-9085
Club 723, 723 S. Broadway, 410-327-8800
Fletcher’s, 701 S. Bond St., 410-558-1889
Hal Daddy’s, 4119 E. Lombard St., 410-342-3239
Harry’s, 1200 N. Charles Street, 410-685-2828
Horse You Came In On, 1626 Thames St., 410-327-8111
Latin Lounge, 509 S. Broadway, 410-522-6700
Lava Lounge, Pier Four, 410-539-7888
Ottobar, 203 E. Davis St., 410-752-6886
Paloma’s, 15 W. Eager St., 410-783-9004
Rec Room, 512 York Rd., 410-337-7178
The Spot Nite Club, 2314 Boston St., 410-276-9556
The Vault, 401 W. Baltimore St., 410-244-6000
Waterfront Hotel, 1710 Thames St., 410-327-4886
Wyatt’s, 1614 Eastern Av., 410-732-8656

COMEDY

Comedy Factory, 36 Light St., 410-752-4189
Tracy’s Comedy Shop, 9306 Harford Rd., 410-665-8600
Winchester’s Comedy Club, 102 Water St., 410-576-8558

COFFEE

Borders Bookstore and Music, 415 York Road, 410-296-0791
Cafe Tattoo, 4825 Belair Road, 410-325-7427
Donna’s, 3101 St. Paul St., 410-889-3410
E Level, Levering Hall, JHU, 410-516-6219
Fell’s Point Cafe, 723 S. Broadway, 410-327-8800
Funk’s Democratic Coffee Spot, 1818 Eastern Av., 410-276-3865
Images Cafe, 3120 St. Paul St., 410-235-3054
Margarets Cafe, 909 Fell St., 410-276-5606
One World Cafe, 100 W. University Parkway, 410-235-5777
XandO, 3003 N. Charles St., 410-889-7076
Ze Mean Bean Cafe, 1739 Fleet St., 410-675-5999

Copenhagen. Of the finest holdings of 19th-century French paintings. For more information, call 410-547-9000.

Ongoing Events

“Seahorses: Beyond Imagination” at the National Aquarium in Baltimore. A fabulous display of almost 20 species of these elusive and exotic animals. Runs through March 10, 2002. For more information, call 410-727-FISH.

“Titanic Science” at the Maryland Science Center. Engage in a hands-on investigative process and immerse yourself in the real artifacts and the true story. For more information, call 410-685-5225. Runs through March 31, 2002.

Baltimore’s Farmers Market, a bounty of fresh fruits, vegetables, breads, smoked meats, cheeses, crafts and more fill the state’s largest producers-only market. Underneath the Jones Falls Expressway at Holiday and Saratoga Streets. 410-837-4636 or 800-282-6632. Sundays, 8 a.m. until sellout.

Every Sunday, the Catholic Community holds **Mass** at 11:00 a.m. in the Interfaith Center. Fr. Riepe is available to hear confessions from 10:15-11:00 a.m.

The Catholic Community gets together for **Newman Night** every Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m. in the Newman House for a free home-cooked meal followed by a fun activity.

The Jewish Student Association and Hopkins Hillel invite all to join in **Pizza and Friends**. Free pizza Thursday nights at 7:00 p.m. in the Interfaith Center.

The **Graduate Women Support Group** meets on Friday afternoons and provides an opportunity for women from various departments to share perspectives, discuss struggles of graduate school and receive and offer support. If interested, call Anita Sharma, Psy.D., or Sara Maggitti, Psy.D., at the Counseling Center at 410-516-8278.

“From Mary Pickersgill’s Backyard” will run from Apr 21, 2001, through Dec. 1, 2001, at The Star-Spangled Banner Flag House. View artifacts from the recent excavation and see what was unearthed from the late 18th century. For more information, call 410-837-1793.

“Branches, Bristles & Batteries Exhibition” will run from June 10, 2001, through May 5, 2002, at the corner of Lombard and Greene Streets. Brushella, the tooth fairy, leads you through toothbrushes through history. Learn proper tooth-friendly foods and how to remove sticky plaque with two interactive stations. For more information, call 410-706-0600 or visit <http://www.dentalmuseum.org>.

Port Discovery’s **“HiFlyer Balloon”** will run from July 1, 2001, through Dec. 31, 2001, at Port Discovery. Baltimore’s newest attraction! Let your imagination soar as you experience Baltimore from the gondola of a giant helium balloon! Tethered by a steel cable you will float 450 ft.! For more information, call 410-949-2FLY or visit <http://www.portdiscovery.org>.

Remnants of Antiquity: Coptic Textiles from Early featuring nearly eighty Coptic textiles from 4th through 13th century Egypt will run at the Baltimore Museum of Art until March 17, 2002. For more information, call 410-396-6314.

The Art of War and Peace will run at the American Visionary Art Museum until September 1, 2002. Seventh exhibition featuring images, sculptures and textile works created by peace visionaries, utopians, soldiers, civilians and witnesses to hate crimes and genocide. For more information, call 410-244-1900.

WinterEscape.org will run in Annapolis until Feb. 28, 2002. Take advantage of a variety of offerings from hotels and attractions in the county. For more information, call 410-280-0445.

Picasso: Cubism to Classicism will run at the Baltimore Museum of Art until Feb. 3, 2002. The third and last in the Picasso series. For more information, call 410-396-6314.

Contraptions A-Z will run at Port Discovery until Feb. 17, 2002. A new interactive traveling exhibit combining whimsical playfulness and

hands-on experiences with fascinating mechanisms. For more information, call 410-727 8120.

The Baltimore Colts: Almost Religion will run at the Babe Ruth Birthplace and Museum until March 31, 2002. An all new exhibit focusing on the 35-year tradition of the Baltimore Colts. For more information, call 410-727-1539.

Racing Style: The Woodlawn Vase and the Preakness will run at the Maryland Historical Society until May 31, 2002. Displays photographs, a print and paintings honoring the history of horse racing in Maryland, as well as the silver trophy presented annually to the Preakness Stakes winner. For more information, call 410-685-3750.

Facing Museums will run at the Walters Art Museum until June 30, 2002. A collaboration with the Contemporary Museum of Baltimore to show works of public art. For more information, call 410-547-9000.

European Abstraction from the Collection, 1912-1914 will run at the Baltimore Museum of Art until Feb. 28, 2002. A multi-media exhibition of 35 paintings, sculptures and works on paper. For more information, call 410-396-5314.

Inner Harbor Ice Rink Skating will run until March 1, 2002. The Inner Harbor Ice Rink opens for the 2001-2002 season! With the wonderful Baltimore skyline as a backdrop, the Inner Harbor Ice Rink offers the perfect outing.

Mechanical Form/Mechanical Vision will run at the Baltimore Museum of Art until April 7, 2002. An exhibition of more than 35 photographs, paintings, sculptures and works on paper by some of the most prominent artists of the 20th century. For more information, call 410-396-6314.

Frank Trefny, Art Exhibit will run at the Steven Scott Gallery until March 3, 2002. For more information, call 410-752-6218.

Blossoms and Beauties will run at the Walters Art Museum until April 7, 2002. A colorful exhibition of Japanese works featuring cherry blossoms, flowering plums and chrysanthemums. For more information, call 410-547-9000.

Jeffery will run at the Axis Theatre until Feb. 10, 2002. From the author of “The Addams Family” comes this talk of love in the era of Safe Sex. For more information, call 410-243-5237.

Master Class will run at The Vagabond Theatre in Fell’s Point until Feb. 10, 2002. “Tears will get you nowhere, darling. Not in the theatre. Not in real life,” says La Divina to one of the three opera students taking her master class. For more information, call 410-563-9135.

To Kill a Mockingbird will run at The Audrey Herman Spotlighters Theatre until Feb. 19, 2002. To Kill a Mockingbird, this film classic comes alive with Atticus, Scout, Jem, Boo, Dill and more. For more information, call 410-752-1225.

Three Tall Women will run at The Pearlstone Theatre until Feb. 10, 2002. An imperious woman of 92 is reaching the end of her life in her richly appointed bedroom. Keeping her company are two other mysterious women who share her recollections. For more information, call 410-332-0033.

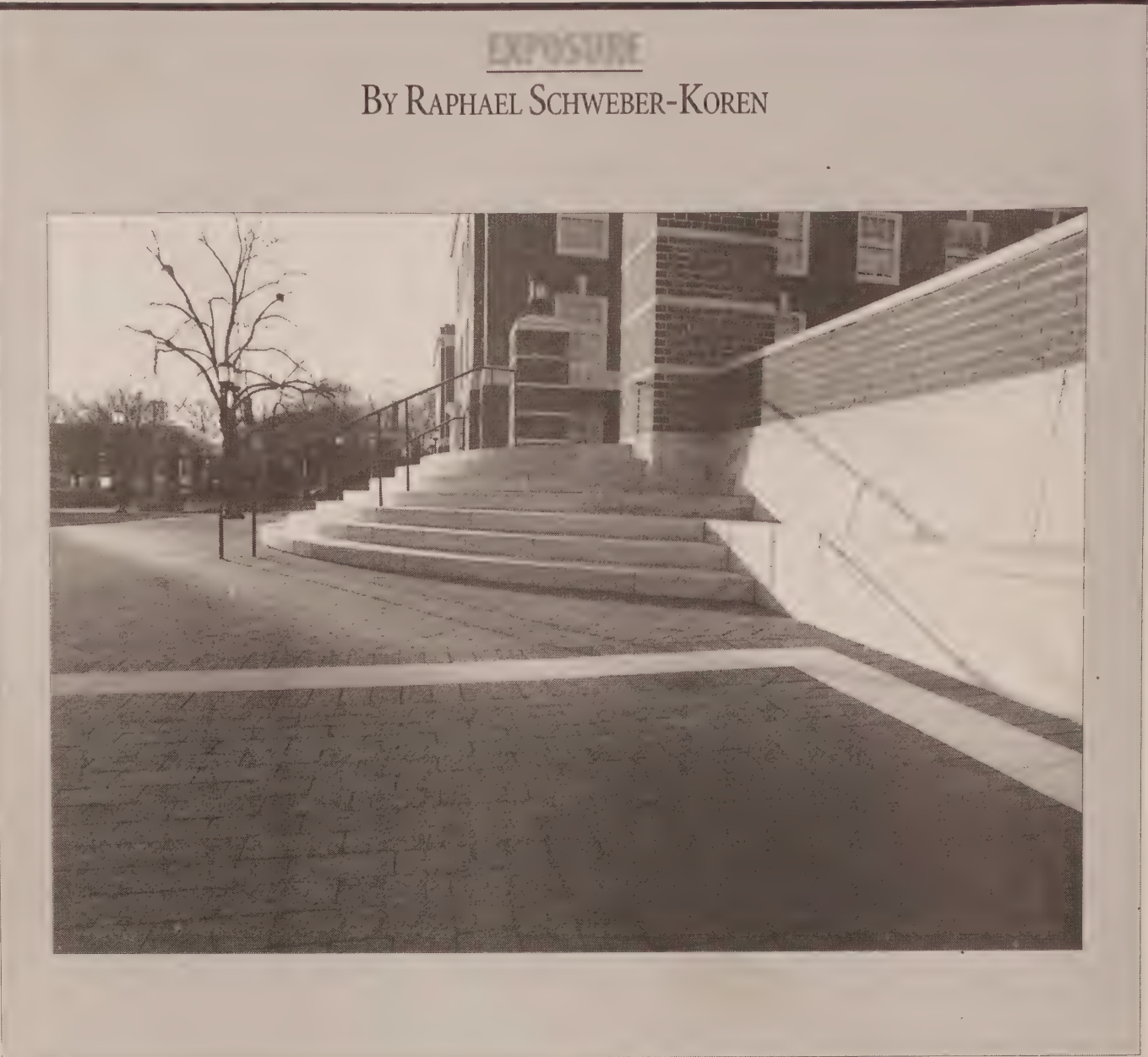
Pots Presented will run at Baltimore Clayworks until Feb. 24, 2002. Featuring 43 artists curated by Nicholas Joerling. For more information, call 410-578-1919.

Crumbs from the Table of Joy will run at Fell’s Point Theater until Feb. 17, 2002. A play about African American life in the 1950’s. For more information, call 410-276-7837.

Winter/Spring Display will run in Wheaton until April 28, 2002. Colorful and fragrant spring flowering plants dress exhibits in imaginative and colorful designs. For more information call 301-949-8230.

Laura Burns and Lynn Silverman, Art Exhibit will run at the Maryland Art Place until Feb. 23, 2002. Exhibition of Photographs by Laura Burns and Lynn Silverman. For more information, call 410-963-8565.

Michael Platt, Art Exhibit will run at the Maryland Art Place until Feb. 23, 2002. Exhibition of Michael Platt’s drawings. For more information, call 410-962-8565.



Antique Valentine Display will run at the Surratt House Museum until Feb. 24, 2002. A salute to Valentine’s Day: displays of antique cards. For more information, call 301-868-1121.

The Closed Book: Seven Short Stories will run at The Walters Art Museum until Aug. 4, 2002. This exhibition will explore how particular markings on bindings often reveal fascinating details about the people who once owned and used these books. For more information, call 410-547-9000.

Civil War: The Maryland Story at the B&O Railroad Station Museum will run until March 31, 2002. Learn political, economic and social changes in Maryland and Ellicott City during the Civil War through living historians. For more information, call 410-461-1944.

Campus Notes

Would you like to give tours of campus to prospective students and their families? The Johns Hopkins Blue Key Society is now accepting applications for new tour guides. Freshmen, sophomores and juniors are invited to apply. You can pick up applications in the Admissions Office lobby at Garland Hall. If you have any questions, e-mail the Blue Key account at bluekey@jhunix.hcf.jhu.edu or contact Jonathan Gerelu, Blue Key Advisor at admajg@jhunix.hcf.jhu.edu or Stephen Kayiaros, Membership Chair at zorba@jhu.edu.

Sexual assault is a difficult topic to discuss, especially if its happened to you, but it does occur and it does need to be talked about so you can move on with your life. Whether it’s something that happened a while ago or more recently, we invite you to join us in an ongoing group discussion to help make sense of what happened and feel strong again. If you are interested or want more information, call Barbara Baum, Ph.D. or Michele Goldstein, M.A. at the Counseling Center at 410-516-8278.

Have family issues followed you here to college? Is someone at home ill, pressuring you too much, not calling enough, too much? The counseling center invites you to join a discussion group about handling family relationships as an undergraduate or graduate student. Topics are only limited by the number of people who come. If interested, call Larry David, Ph.D. or Michele Goldstein, M.A. at the Counseling Center at 410-516-8278.

The Counseling Center will be holding a weekly meeting for in-

ternational students, undergraduate and graduate, to come and discuss shared concerns about adjusting to living in the U.S., Baltimore and Johns Hopkins. What is it like to be away from home, what are the challenges and joys of life and study in another country? We are open to any concerns that you bring to the group. If interested, call Anita Sharma, Psy.D. or Michele Goldstein, M.A. at the Counseling Center at 410-516-8278.

Social Shyness Group - Do you feel a lot of anxiety when you think about meeting new people? Do you avoid places or situations where you might have to say something in public? Do you worry about acting a certain way or saying the “right thing” to someone you don’t know? You’re not alone! The Counseling Center is offering a group for students interested in being more confident in social situations. We’re seeking students interested in being more comfortable making friends, meeting a potential romantic partner, talking in class or just being in a crowd. The group will emphasize self-confidence, insight and skills building in a low pressure, supportive and safe environment. Call the Counseling Center at 410-516-8278 and ask to speak with Daniel Zimet, M.S., for more information.

Dissertation Support Group - Meet with a group of fellow students grappling with the same issues you are. Get some suggestions, some encouragement, some gentle pressure to keep at it and a lot of support. The group will meet Tuesdays 12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m. For additional information, contact Barbara Baurm, Ph.D., or Daniel Zimet, M.S., at 410-516-8278.

<http://www.jhunewsletter.com>

Find out what the fuss is about.

Sponsored by **Eddie's Liquors**
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Must redeem within 30 days.

THE HEARTQUIZ

Valentine's Day - while it is a celebration of love and mushiness for some, for the QM, it is just another day, no different from the day before it or the day after save for the fact that the QM sustains her unnaturally high glucose levels with fistfuls of candy conversation hearts rather than triple coconut mochas. While this celebration of loving togetherness is usually not one of the QM's favorite holidays (as she is forever lacking in special friends with which to spend it), this year she consumed enough mood-boosting chocolate to calorically support a pod of whales, and thus was able to consider Valentine's Day through cherry candy coated lenses.

Of course, the QM did not want to churn out a run-of-the-mill quiz about cupids and flowers and heart-fringed lingerie. While questions about arrow-wielding nudists and lacy thongs are all well and good, they threatened to overwhelm the QM's sugar-fueled feelings of goodwill towards those celebrating the holiday with a significant other.

In the end, the QM decided to focus this week's quiz on the heart - the heart is responsible for love. The heart is the seat of emotion. The heart, thanks to Hallmark, is the worldwide symbol of love - and oh, so much more! An organ, a last name, a game of cards - it would be hard to devote a quiz solely to the liver, or to the pancreas, but the heart is so major an organ it would be deserving of its own quiz even without the added Valentine's Day symbolism.

So — cuddle up to your sweetie in front of a roaring dormitory heating vent. Take turns picking stray hairs out of your loved one's Terrace Court entrees. Perform oral sex on your significant other while they are studying for an upcoming exam.

Above all else, don't forget to whisper the sweet nothings of this week's quiz in each other's ears. Flawless as a form of foreplay, and equally ideal as for post-bondage bonding, it's the quiz you couples have been waiting for - The Heart Quiz!

Get your answers in by 5 p.m. on Tuesday.
You can bring them in to the office, email them to news.letter@jhu.edu, or fill out the quiz online (at <http://www.jhunewsletter.com>).

The winner gets \$10 worth of goodies from our sponsors, Eddie's Market and Eddie's Liquors on the 3100 block of St. Paul.

1. Anyone who's ever spent a Friday night parked in front of the television with a piece of pizza in one hand and an open Orgo book in the other (and, let's face it - at Hopkins, that's how most people spend every Friday night) should be familiar with Melissa Joan Hart, who plays the title role in *Sabrina, the Teenage Witch*, a program most popular with pre-teen Wiccans and feline fetishists. Although the Hart in question may have recently dyed her hair a more suitably bewitching shade of red, for some she will always remain the tow-headed nonconformist who explained her life to Nickelodeon's viewers a half hour at a time. What is the name of the show Melissa Joan Hart starred in before she became everyone's favorite witch-in-training?

2. What kind of heart surgery has Homer Simpson had?

3. Who was the second person to fly solo across the Atlantic?

4. In the game of Hearts, which card is worth the most points?

5. "If love conquers all, then guilt gives it all away." This old adage, which the QM made up less than a minute ago, rings as true as the adage "life imitates art." The QM can recall numerous books where a wonderfully criminal literary figure will have committed a near-perfect crime, only to be caught when his overwhelming guilt forces him over the edge of self-destruction. This theme is especially popular in the works of Edgar Allen Poe. "The Imp of the Perverse," "The Black Cat," "The Telltale Heart" - three of Poe's most famous works, and all three deal with the phenomenon described above.

Now, taking into account that this is The Heart Quiz, no one should be surprised that the mention of Poe is almost immediately followed by a question of his most heart-related work. Even the most fiction-phobic premed should be familiar with the plot of "The Telltale Heart," if only because it was spoofed in an episode of The Simpsons. Thus, everyone should know where the killer buried the remains of his victim. Who knows which of the victim's physical traits was the one that drove the narrator to murder?

6. Who wrote the song "Heart and Soul"? Who starred in the 1993 movie of the same name?

7. As far as your body's organs go, the heart is a pretty important one, what with the pumping of blood and all. It is also one of the busiest organs, lub-dubbing nonstop from before you are born until you kick the bucket. Over the years, it seems that the body's organs have learned to work together at a reasonable level of efficiency, but there are cases where the the hardest working organ decides to call it quits before the rest of the body is ready. In such cases, there are two options: one, you can die, or two, you can get a heart transplant. The first of these rightfully drastic-sounding operations was performed in 1968 - what was the name of the surgeon in chief?

8. What is the Heart of Dixie?

9. What is the name of the valve that connects the left atrium to the left ventricle? The right atrium to the right ventricle?

10. If you are going to be breaking up with Billy Ray Cyrus any time soon, keep in mind his once-popular request: "Don't tell my heart, my achy breaky heart - I just don't think he'd understand And if you tell my heart, my achy breaky heart, he might _____." Might what?

11. Which heart beats faster, the heart of a man or the heart of a woman?

12. According to the US military, what color is a heart that has been wounded in battle?



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.NETDOCTOR.CO.UK](http://www.netdoctor.co.uk)

Tiebreaker:
This quiz began with talk of candy conversation hearts, and it will end on a similar note - list as many bits of candy conversation as you can think of. Extra credit goes to those who actually donate said hearts to the QM's

"Lonely Hearts" club.

- Answers to Last Week's Quiz
1. Tuesday, February 12, 2002
 2. farewell to the flesh
 3. purple (justice); green (faith); gold (power)
 4. Let the good times roll
 5. Bourbon Street
 6. Crescent City; the Big Easy
 7. people throw more beads if you show them your chest
 8. Throw me something, Mister!
 9. a-2; b-4; c-c; d-5; e-3
 10. crowned king for a day/good luck for a year; has to buy the next King Cake; has to throw the next party
 11. Bacchus
 12. Orpheus
 13. Endymion
 14. Rex
 15. Rex
 16. yes

The winner of last week's quiz was Martina Gaertner. Please come to the Gatehouse on Tuesday or Wednesday evening to pick up your prize. Congratulations!



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THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

2/14/2002



The Housing Guide

In the third year, the University in its wrath cast the students out to the ends of the earth, even unto Guilford and Greenmount were they scattered, and the students looked back sadly, and saw the fiery, ever-turning sword blocking the way behind them, and they said, one unto another, "Whither shall we go, for the University has closed itself against us?"

—The Book of Housing, 3:16

It's big housin', baby

To all our homeless homies floating on the wind,

And so it comes to this. Two years of slaving away at the books for this God-forsaken school and its petty professors, and what thanks do we get? We're cast out into the cold like an outdated edition of Ginsberg's political science textbook.

Moses has got nothing on us. Sure, those 40 years in the Sinai were inconvenient, but we'll take Pharoah's army over Balto City cops any day.

Left to fend for ourselves in the dank corners and alleyways of Harm City, to whom can the defenseless Hopkins undergrad turn for aid? ResLife? Housing? Sodexho-Marriott, for Pete's sake? No, no, and hell no.

Your only true friends through thick and thin (besides maybe methamphetamine), we here at the *News-Letter* have labored endless hours (like, a whole week, dude) scouring the apartments and rowhouses surrounding Homewood campus in an effort to find some stinking hole for you to plant your ass to sleep.

You don't have to thank us. Just buy us a round of Beast at CVP.

Inside you'll find extensive reviews of many of the neighborhood's most accessible, affordable apartment buildings in Charles Village and Guilford, as well as the pros and cons of each. There's a short discussion of the available university housing options as well (few though they are). This year, we've expanded our section of "helpful hints," because finding a place to live is only half the fun. Learning to function independently is a whole new ballgame. What little advice we have on that topic is densely packed into the following pages.

Use it with caution. Buyer, beware. And remember this, always: the truth may set you free, but lying can be quite a timesaver.

Unlike most special issues we've produced, thanks to this issue's low number of pages and the heavy dosage of archival articles, we're pretty confident we could've tackled this one all by ourselves. Still, we'd be remiss not to thank those whose assistance allowed us to delegate the most menial of tasks. Many thanks to our Chiefs, S. and Shannon, for their visionary leadership and baked goods. To Jay and Charles, for their untiring diligence and their ramrod-straight posture. To Holly, Liz and the entire photo staff for all the pretty colors. To Pearl Jam, Ludacris, Ja Rule, Jay-Z and the Roots for filling our ears with smooth sounds and overflowing our hearts with gladness. Thanks to President Brody and his cronies on the Board of Trustees for lacking the minimal wisdom to build adequate student housing, thus providing the motive for this particular issue. To our friends and lovers, thanks for doing without us for most of a weekend while we took care of our bid'ness. To our family, without whose maddening torment we might've been too well-adjusted and sensible to attend this fine institution. Most importantly, a billion thank yous to the entire editorial staff and all our writers, without whose timely, thorough reporting we probably wouldn't have been able to do this after all. No matter how much we say otherwise, we love you goofy bastards.

Bonne chance, comrades,

Charbel "Deez Nuts" Barakat and Jeremy "Back Dat Ass Up" Tully
Special Issues Editors

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UNIVERSITY HOUSING

Hard livin', Hop-style: The AMR spectacle

A man's long journey through the dark nether-regions of our undergrad on-campus dormitories

I have to be honest. I look back at my time in the AMRs with nothing but fondness. Sure, there were mice, but still, truth be told, I liked it. I might actually have liked it better than I liked living in McCoy. McCoy pretends to be a step up, but it's really more of a false promise: sure, you get a bathroom for four people instead of 20, but you're still in a shoebox-sized room, and the "kitchenette" has so little counter space as to make it almost unusable. The AMRs, even if dingy, are at least honest. They're dorms, straight out, no doubt about it, and they don't try to pretend to be anything else. There's a certain bare-bones simplicity to that which I appreciate.

Not that the AMRs didn't have their disadvantages. For one thing, there's the aforementioned mice. Then there's the tiled floors. Call me an elitist, but I just don't think you should have tile where you sleep. It seems wrong somehow.

There's also the fact that most non-Hopkinds who've seen my

pictures of the AMR hallways think that they look like either a bomb shelter, a prison, or a mental hospital. Whichever you pick, it doesn't add up to an aesthetic environment.

On the other hand, it always seemed that, no matter how enthusiastically and thoroughly one decorated a McCoy room, it always looked the same as every other McCoy room: gray walls, industrial carpet and cookie-cutter furniture. Not that the furniture was any different in the AMRs, but those burlap-covered-corkboard walls let your decorative imagination run riot, and facilitated personalization to an extent that, even today, I have not fully recreated (my walls are now made of plaster, which is almost impossible to drive a thumbtack into without a hammer).

By way of unearthing old gripes, however, I just want to mention here that, despite the aforementioned fabric-covered walls, one is not allowed to have fabric wall hangings in the AMRs, causing Adams 301 to fail room inspection more than once by rea-

son of my roommate's infamous UCLA banner.

Then, of course, there's the social environment, which at JHU can be neatly divided into three



S. BRENDAN SHORTT
Placebo Effect

stages (that is, for those of us here who have a social environment). The "AMR stage" (for those frosh lucky enough to live there)

is characterized by the stereotypical "dorm" environment, in which socialization, visiting and neglect of homework are prevalent, PJs are the norm in the hallways and Springer or Nintendo can be found at any hour of the day. All that, and illicit drinking, too.

The "Wolman/McCoy stage" is next, and is characterized by more insularity among groups of friends, the withdrawal of premed students from social life as they slog through Biochem, Orgo II, Orgo Lab, etc. and the restriction of wandering by those pesky and pointless access doors. Oh yeah, and more and easier illicit drinking.

Finally, there's the currently "off-campus stage," which I'm swimming in. Since this is about looking back, I'll restrict my comments to reminding people to leave their building once in a while and to mention that for me, anyway, it's a little like being back in the AMRs, since a number of my friends live in the same building. It's a lot posher, though.

If this rambling hodge-podge of a column had any point, I guess it was to remind all you undergrads that however much you

McCoy pretends to be a step up, but it's really more of a false promise. The AMRs, even if dingy, are honest.

may look forward to ditching your current digs in favor of a more congenial crib, where you're living now is a unique and important part of your experience here, with its own special character and circumstances.

If you can't enjoy it, at least don't ignore it, because it can make a great story.

The search for AMR-tifical intelligence

By Ron Demeter

Every year sophomores leave the confines of the freshman quad and head for sophomore housing. However, each year several sophomores elect to remain in the AMRs for another year.

Although few sophomores live

in the AMRs, life there can have its advantages for older undergrads. An unlucky draw in the housing lottery will force most students seeking singles to take one half of a double in Wolman or McCoy.

If one really desired their own place they could easily grab a

single in the AMRs. Not only would one spare oneself the possibility of exile, but they would be doing so for far less.

Rooms in the AMRs are cheaper than their counterparts on 34th Street. The AMRs have a closer proximity to most on-campus locations, so residents are

treated to those oh-so-precious ten extra minutes of sleep in the morning. The dorms are also closer to SodeXho's Spago, the Terrace Court Café, which means the absence of the Wolman/McCoy resident Saturday hike for food.

The AMRs also offer an element not present in other buildings on campus: a social

life. Moving from dorm to dorm is easy, and making friends is unavoidable. Describing the AMRs as "the social place to be" has become a cliché, but it's also true.

For some it may be a good experience to have another year in the AMRs. Not many, but some.

A sophomore living in the AMRs would also face many obstacles. There are very few sophomores living there, so socializing with people their age is often more difficult. Rooms in the AMRs are not as nice as the ones in Wolman or McCoy and the communal bathrooms can be a nightmare for those with a fear of doing it in public.

The communal bathrooms are often times dirty, and can be crowded at times. The bathrooms are usually cleaned every week-day but for some reason always feel dirty. The showers and their translucent doors offer a barely-there privacy. And the toilets can be unusable, for many different reasons.

Unlike other university housing, however, students do not have to clean their own bathrooms.

The rooms in the AMRs are not as big as the ones in Wolman

or McCoy, and do not come equipped with a kitchenette. Many students elect to purchase the micro-fridge system offered by the University.

Rooms contain an extra-long bed, wardrobe, cabinets, and desk. All of these fit comfortably in an AMR single. All AMR residents must be on the meal plan.

Life in the AMR may not have all of the luxuries offered in other university housing, but it comes at a far cheaper price.

ALUMNI MEMORIAL RESIDENCES (AMRS)

3400 N. Charles St.
Phone: 410-516-7960

Rent Scale: (2001 rates)
Single \$8700/Yr
Double \$4800-6060/Yr

Amenities: Ethernet; laundry room, computer room and common kitchen in basement

Utilities: Included

Restrictions: No pets, no halogen lamps, many appliances prohibited, must purchase University meal plan

Parking: None

Recreational Facilities: Game room in basement



EMILY NALVEN/NEWS-LETTER

Every year, some bold sophomores make the AMR choice.

Wolman Hall

3339 N. Charles Street, 410-516-7960

By Konstantine Kakaredis

After moving into Wolman Hall, the AMRs will feel like a Taliban cave. Wolman offers living improvements in all aspects of life, except on the social level. Instead of sharing a bathroom with an entire floor, one only needs to share with three other people. All rooms come with carpeting, air conditioning and climate control and each suite has a kitchenette and bathroom.

Singles can range in size from under 100 sq. ft. to almost 150 sq. ft. Doubles are larger, though their sizes depend on the suite. The most common configurations for suites are two singles and a double or two doubles. A suite with singles is more popular and requires a higher lottery number.

Wolman residents are freshmen and sophomores who did not have a high enough lottery number to live across the street in McCoy. Wolman is located on

34th st. across from the Beach. Along with neighboring McCoy Hall, Wolman is the epicenter of sophomore living at Hopkins.

Wolman is separated into two

WOLMAN HALL

RENT SCALE:

Single Room: \$6155/year
Double Room: \$4875/year

AMENITIES:

Ethernet, T.V., VCR, cable in lounges, central A/C & heating

UTILITIES:

Included

RESTRICTIONS:

No pets, must purchase University meal plan

PARKING

Street parking

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

Small game/exercise room in the basement

wings, East and West. Unlike in McCoy Hall, one must travel down to the first floor in order to travel between wings. Access cards are required for elevator use at all times. Every floor has its own lounge filled with couches and a television set.

Students living in Wolman must purchase a meal plan from the University. Luckily, both Wolman Station and the Depot are located on the first floor of the building. The kitchenettes can be used to prepare food; however, they are only equipped with a stove, sink, cabinets and refrigerator. A microwave and toaster-oven or George Foreman grill are essential items for any students planning on preparing their own food. Students must also purchase their own kitchenware.

The suite bathrooms are adequate for four students. Students are supplied with toilet paper at least once a week. The washing machines are located in the base-

ment along with a game room, aerobic exercise room and mailroom for Wolman and McCoy residents.

Wolman Hall residents are treated to an array of services that is not included in a normal apartment. Hopkins will fix student problems ranging from overflowing toilets to blown light bulbs.

Rooms come with a wardrobe, bed, desk and four cabinets that can be stacked or configured in many ways. The furniture is an improvement over the AMRs although many residents need more closet space than a simple wardrobe.

The University provides telephones in each room, but in order to receive outside phone calls, residents must purchase the University phone plan, which is quite costly. Many residents choose to

buy cell phones instead.

Socializing in Wolman is different from the AMRs. Moving between floors is difficult and moving between wings can be annoying. Doors are not constantly open and it is often difficult to meet new people.

The Wolman experience on a whole is a vast improvement over life in the AMRs. It is more apartment-like in feel and offers more privacy and quiet than any building on the freshman quad.



EMILY NALVEN/NEWS-LETTER

Wolman is a hop, skip and a jump from class.

McCoy Hall

3401 N. Charles Street, 410-516-7960

By David Merrick

With very close proximity to classes, secure access, a brand new laundry room and the ability to live next door to friends, McCoy hall is overall a good housing option for sophomores and freshman.

It provides an excellent transition from the papered living in The AMRs and Buildings A&B, allowing students to get experience in many of the things, they will have to do when they move out into their own apartment or house, such as cooking and cleaning dishes.

Situated opposite Wolman Hall, and across Charles St. from campus, McCoy couldn't be closer to your classes. It usually takes, at most, less than five minutes to get to any class on campus, and when its pouring rain or snow, the short walk will be greatly appreciated.

McCoy offers single, and double rooms and is designed in suite style, meaning that two doubles, or a double and two singles, are connected together with a bathroom and a kitchenette.

The private bathroom is a welcome change to many sopho-

mores tired of the public bathrooms in the AMRs. The kitchenette is also a welcome addition, allowing students the opportunity to expand their meal options and get away from the sometimes inadequate food served in Wolman and Terrace.

The kitchen is usually located between the two or three rooms and also serves as the main hallway to the outer door. It has an electric range with two burners, perfect for boiling water for pasta or frying up that left over chow mein.

Sadly, there is no oven, which cuts down the number of culinary options available to Hopkins' young chefs, but this can be easily made up for with an affordable toaster oven, which can usually accommodate most small baking needs.

The kitchen also has a sink (perpetually filled with dirty dishes) and several cabinets (perpetually filled with partially moldy food). While the kitchen brings many new eating options, it also carries several responsibilities. Hand-washing dishes may be something foreign to some students, but it will become all too familiar after eating at Wolman becomes unbearable and all the meals are cooked in the suite.

MCCOY HALL

RENT SCALE:

Single Room: \$6155/year
Double Room: \$4875/year

AMENITIES:

Ethernet, T.V., VCR, cable in lounges, central A/C & heating

UTILITIES:

Included

RESTRICTIONS:

No pets, must purchase University meal plan

PARKING

Street parking

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

Pool table, exercise room

Some students set a dish washing schedule, which works well if enforced. Another option, which seems to work well is to let all the dishes get dirty and pile up in the sink, and whenever someone wants to cook something they wash the dish that they need.

The bathrooms, located in each suite, are a welcome improvement upon the shared and often trashed bathrooms of the AMRs. However, once again new privileges bring new responsibilities, because the bathroom is going to need cleaning, and the janitors don't do it for you anymore. Don't worry, they still bring toilet paper around each week.

Of course no one wants to take out the garbage, and this along with the dishes and cleaning the bathroom, sometimes serves as a tension that can result in fights between suitemates. The best option is probably to set a schedule and enforce it. McCoy has garbage shoots on each floor so at least you don't have to walk far.

McCoy's rooms themselves are not bad. They are very tall and wall-to-wall carpeted. One drawback is that the rooms are not that much bigger than the AMRs, and a double can feel very cramped. The view from most windows is hardly breathtaking; most people look straight into another person's room, which is an interesting experience. Some of the corner rooms on the top floors have a nice view of the beach, if you are lucky enough to get them.

Access to McCoy is controlled by a complex computer system of access cards. Each resident receives an access card that is recognized by panels located besides each door. The readers beep if the card is accepted and the door will unlock.

In addition, each suite has a lock on both the outside door and the door to each room. The card system allows residents access to the entire building during the day.

All McCoy alumni have fond memories of the alarms that go off when people leave the doors open. This is probably the single, biggest drawback to McCoy, but

is considered part of the security system.

In the main hall McCoy has

The view from most windows is hardly breathtaking; most people look straight into another person's room, which is an interesting experience.

both an isolated study room, with tables and chairs, and a T.V. room with couches. The T.V. room is a lot of fun to hang out with friends and watch your favorite movies.

The study room on McCoy 6W was fondly referred to as the insanitarium, partially due to the bleak white paint and fluorescent lights, partially due to the unending whistling emanating from the broken window, and mainly due to the endless studying that occurred there. Almost any time at night, especially during finals, you could find several people working away diligently in that madhouse.

No house? No problem. Look no further than the Homewood campus

You did everything right: you tried your luck at the housing lottery to see if you could get a spot in the Homewood; you put your name on waiting lists on all of the area apartments during Intercession; you spent hours on the phone talking to landlords and constantly checked the off-campus housing Web site for new listings. But, somehow things didn't work out. The lottery wasn't kind to you, your name is still near the bottom of all of those waiting lists, and every time a new listing appeared on the off-campus housing site, the lease had already been signed for two weeks.

School's about to start, and you have nowhere to live. Is there nothing you can do?

Well, at this point, I think it's time to consider other alternatives; after all, in all of your efforts to find a place to live, you never considered one of the greatest resources Hopkins has to offer the homeless — the Homewood campus. Like any college campus, Homewood has plenty of spots that you could crash, probably indefinitely, if you needed to. Why not take advantage of them ... save yourself some rent money; avoid the hassle of finding a place to live; enjoy the college life. So listen up — we might have the answer you've been looking for.

We begin at the south end of campus with the Gatehouse. It's

as good a starting point as any — it's where I spend half of my time, and I know for a fact that someone has lived there in the past. Look back in the annals of college newspaper history and you'll find that an editor-in-chief once used the attic of the News-Letter office as his home. And with the building's recent extermination, you probably won't be bothered by too many rodents or insects.

Then again, you'll have to listen to student groups begging for publicity, you'll get about two hours of

sleep on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, and unless you're about four feet tall, it might get a little cramped up there. So maybe the Gatehouse isn't the answer.

Our search continues past the sculpture garden (which could be a good place to crash if Baltimore's weather were a little more predictable) and to the New Engineering Building on the Lower Quad. On the third floor, you'll find another room where students have been known to sleep on occasion: the Association for Computing Machinery room. Here you'll find \$0.50 sodas, plenty of computers to use and a sink where you can brush your teeth before heading off to class. But don't be surprised if you're sharing the floor with random motherboards, memory chips and broken power supplies.

If technology's not your thing, perhaps you'd prefer to live outside, so next we consider the

Beach. Technically, you probably aren't allowed to live there, but it's been done: a group of shanties was erected there in the mid-'80s, and a few homeless Student Labor Action Committee members repeated the act a couple of years back. And every spring a group of Habitat for Humanity members camps out in refrigerator boxes one night; who'd be opposed if you decided to make the event a little more long-term?

Still not satisfied? Head through the Milton S. Eisenhower Library (another obvious choice, but even if you're asleep some pre-med will probably get mad at you for disturbing their studies, so I won't recommend it) to Gilman Hall on the Upper Quad. Here, there are a couple of spots you could try. The Hutzler Undergraduate Library, open 24 hours a day, would probably work, though the heat is always turned up much too high for my

comfort. You could also try Gilman 500, complete with mood lightning (I hope you like purple

or red, white and blue). After a while, you'd probably get used to the constant ringing of the clock's bells ... just make sure that an Introduction to Fiction and Poetry class isn't scheduled to meet in there — that's torture that nobody should have to sit through.

Finally, we reach the north end of campus, on the second floor of Bloomberg. Here there are plenty of leather couches and a large glass window overlooking the woods across San Martin drive. A comfortable place to lounge, a great view ... just watch out for the Physics TAs. Unfortunately, you'll have to walk about a mile to get to any of your classes; while the rest of us avoid classes that meet in Bloomberg, you'll struggle to find five that are all taught there.

So in case you're still without a place next September, I hope we've found something that suits your needs ... until then, good luck with the housing search.

Here there are plenty of couches and a window overlooking the woods across San Martin Dr. A comfortable place to lounge, a great view ... just watch out for the Physics TAs.

Ivy Hall

10-12 East 33rd Street, 410-516-7960

By Pete Goldwine

So, you're looking for housing that offers all the benefits of dorm life and none of the hassles? Then, Ivy Hall, a university-owned housing complex, is just right for you. Not only does it offer strong security, but you get to keep the luxury of Ethernet access.

Ivy Hall is located right above the ever-popular RoFo and con-

ing is accessed by security card only, and with Pike and WaWa being right across the street, there are sure to be Hop cops as well as Baltimore Police around.

There is in fact one large problem that one will encounter upon arrival at Ivy Hall: no elevators. That's right, you're going to have to carry your clothes, T.V., computer, books, yourself, up two, three, maybe even four flights of stairs. To make things worse, the stairwells are awfully narrow.

Luckily, you won't have to bring your own furniture, as the apartments are decorated with the exquisite Wolman/McCoy-type desks and dressers.

Each apartment has a central living room, four bedrooms, two bathrooms (that's right, two) and a kitchen. The kitchen is supplied with a regular-sized refrigerator, an oven and a stove, a particularly small sink and even some cabinet space.

Just as in the dorms, if anything needs repair in the apartment, you can count on JHU Housing to have it repaired within a week. Can't say the same for some of those landlords out there.

The location of Ivy Hall is also optimal. You are only a few more seconds away from campus than Wolman and McCoy. Also, you are right on St. Paul St. Every-

thing you could possibly need is right there, from Eddie's to Bank of America and even Royal Farms right below you. The corner of St. Paul and 33rd has also become a rather popular cab stop as well. However, the location of

IVY HALL

Rent Scale: 4 Bedroom: \$5050-\$5510/year
Amenities: Ethernet, cable television in lounges, laundry room in basement
Utilities: Included
Restrictions: No pets
Parking: Street parking
Recreational Facilities: None

Ivy will not bode well with those looking for a good view. Your windows will likely face 33rd Street, St. Paul or dumpsters, none of which are particularly interesting.

Sure, rent is not going to be much less than freshman and sophomore housing costs, but you don't have to be on meal plan, don't have a yard you have to keep up and you don't have to worry about a five block walk to campus. Ivy Hall is definitely a place to consider living next year, but don't count on it. With only 48 spaces available, they are sure to fill up fast!



Afraid of the dark? Then consider the ACM lab — computer screens make great night lights.

The location of Ivy Hall is optimal.

You're only a few more seconds away from campus than Wolman or McCoy.

sists of two buildings. It houses a total of only 48 people among four floors. The first floor houses mailboxes as well as washers and dryers, while the remaining three floors each house two apartments. Although there is no Hop Cop sitting at a desk at the entrance, the build-

JASON GORDON/NEWS-LETTER

The Bradford

3301 St. Paul Street, 410-516-7960

News-Letter Staff

For sophomores, the Bradford is conveniently located near campus, which is always a plus when

in a rush or if you feel afraid to walk home from a party or the library. However, despite the fact that the building is well-lit, a number of sketchy characters can be found outside of it at all times of day. Also, the fact that it's across from RoFo (which gets held up about once a week) is a definite minus in my book.

Knowing that all your neighbors are Hopkins students is a definite benefit. This comes in handy when you're throwing parties since you usually don't have to worry about your neighbors complaining about the noise.

And yet, if you're looking for an ultra-modern, ultra-chic building in which to live, the Bradford is definitely not where you should be looking. The building itself is pretty ghetto, and the elevators take forever to get where they're going. In addition, the rooms are abysmally small. Granted, coming out of the AMRs, they may seem really big, but almost any other apartment

building in Baltimore has larger rooms.

The efficiencies can be pretty small, but the one-bedroom apartments are fairly nice. So if you're the type of person who likes to be alone and have plenty of space, then a one-bedroom at the Bradford is recommended. Plus, all the rooms in the Bradford are furnished, so Mommy and Daddy won't have to spend lots of money on a U-Haul for all of your IKEA furniture.

One large disadvantage of living in the Bradford, however, is that it is anti-social. I was completely disillusioned when I moved in because I was expecting it to be like my friends' dorms in Wolman and McCoy. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Although you have RAs, their dorm events usually aren't very well-attended. Ergo, the RAs don't put too much effort into them, and you wind up going to some random MSE Symposium



FILE PHOTO

Housing and Admissions often attempt to team up and stuff the Bradford full of kids who would be in Wolman and McCoy.

event while your friends in Wolman and McCoy are going shopping and painting the town red at Tyson's Corner.

You definitely have to make an effort to be social when you're living in the Bradford. As a freshman living in Baker, I was used to leaving my door open and having my

friends stop by whenever. This happened maybe once a day, tops, while living in the Bradford.

In the end, though, the Bradford treated me well. Despite the disadvantages, if I had to do it all over again, I'd definitely put the Bradford at the top of my list.

THE BRADFORD

(2001-2002 rates not available)

RENT SCALE:

Furnished only
Efficiency \$6480/Year
1 Bedroom \$8700/Year
Shared 2,3,4 BR
with roommates \$4800-6060/Year

AMENITIES:

Central A/C & Heating
Cable Ready
24-hr Emergency maintenance and security

UTILITIES PAID BY TENANT:

None

RESTRICTIONS:

No pets

PARKING

Garage with fee
Street parking with City permit

The Homewood Apartments

3003 N. Charles Street, 410-516-7960

By Cara Gitlin

Charles St. is definitely the side of the campus you want to live on, and the most convenient apartment building to live in is the Homewood. If you are looking to escape all the bad memories of University-owned housing you

experienced in the past years, don't worry. The Homewood really is not that similar to living in the dorms; it has most of the advantages without all of the disadvantages of communal living. You have Security guards at the front desk 24 hours a day and if you have any sort of plumbing or heating problems, someone from the Housing Office will (eventually) come to fix it free of charge.

The Homewood has efficiencies and one-, two-, three- and four-bedroom apartments. And just about all of the apartments are furnished with nicer versions of the furniture found in Wolman and McCoy. The furniture may be a bit on the boring side, but at least it's clean and sturdy, and you don't have to worry about moving desks, beds, tables and chairs in and out.

And the laundry room is not nearly as scary as some of the others in buildings I've seen. Have you ever had to go down into the basement of one of those ancient buildings on University Parkway? There's a reason that inhabitants of those apartments refuse to do their laundry alone - those basements are scary. The laundry room in the Homewood looks almost sunny by comparison.

Overpriced as it is, Eddie's Supermarket is right behind you

so you don't have to worry about catching the shuttle every time you need to do some grocery shopping. You'll need to go grocery shopping once in a while since all of the apartments have a full kitchen (microwave not included.)

Another big advantage used to be the little exercise room, but the new AC has made that feature pretty obsolete.

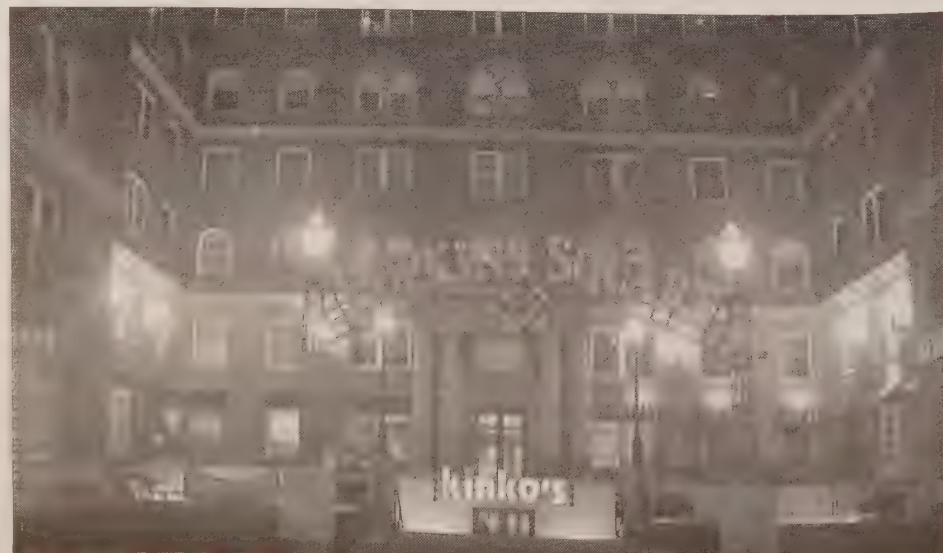
The biggest disadvantage to

me is that no pets are allowed in the Homewood. Well, you can get away with a fish, or maybe even a hamster, but I would not recommend trying to sneak in a puppy. You'll get caught.

It is getting harder and harder to live in the Homewood each year. You have to go through a lottery to get in, and they keep turning more and more apartments into underclassman housing. It's far

too nice for sophomores to live in, but pretty soon it may be all sophomores.

Being right in Charles Village, there are a lot more restaurants within walking distance than if you lived on the other side of campus, and XandOs and Kinko's are right next door. And don't worry, you can always pretend that Ruby Tuesday's doesn't exist, just like the rest of us.



At the Homewood, you can eat, buy CD's and make photocopies and hardly leave the building.

EMILY NALVEN/NEWS-LETTER

THE HOMEWOOD

RENT SCALE:

Efficiency: \$5850-6960/year
1 Bedroom: \$8040-9340/year
2 Bedroom: \$5435-6510/year
3 Bedroom: \$4720-5740/year
4 Bedroom: \$4190-5160/year

AMENITIES:

Ethernet
Cable ready
Central A/C & Heating

UTILITIES:

Included

RESTRICTIONS:

No pets

PARKING

Street parking with City permit

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

Small game/exercise room in the basement

CHARLES VILLAGE

Charles Village: home to Pablo, Samir and that RoFo chicken guy

Our reporter reveals the inner beauty of Charles Village

By Teresa Matejovsky

It may not be a bustling urban scene or a historic colonial village, but Charles Village has a charm of its own. This little area with a main street on St. Paul between 28th St. and University Pkwy. is all the fun one might never want to have again. But it's home to every Hopkins student for four years and can be cool in its own, quirky way. When one is deprived of a necessity, one grows to love whatever fills the void. Thus is the secret of Charles Village. While it may appear residential and passive on the outside, there's a little soul down inside.

"When I think of fun, I don't exactly picture the amazingly ghetto Charles Village, but the people are pretty cool and you can find good times," sophomore Bethany Morehouse said. "I love the [RoFo] chicken man and the bartenders at CVP [Charles Village Pub] let you dance on the bar - if you're nice."

Tucked between two ghettos, as students like to say, the Village really is a little world of its own. It is incomplete but sufficient. In one block between 31st and 32nd Streets, Eddie's grocery store offers up sushi and sandwiches and two brands of toothpaste and Donna's supplies coffee. Rocky Run makes nachos, and CVP makes a hang-out for every night

of the week. Together, Bank of America, CC Carry-out and Sam's Bagels compete for the shortest working hours of the day.

The shops mix corporate chains and family operations. For every Ruby Tuesday, there is a Silk Road. For Royal Farms, there is Uni-Mini. For XandOs, there is the new café, Cuppa Cabana. If you want a burger, you can find your burger. If you want ostrich eggs, you can find those, too, bottled on the shelf in Uni-Mini with a label in Arabic. [Charles Village] has everything you need. Food, beer, a bank, the chicken guy and excellent parties now and then," sophomore Charlie Porter said.

The diversity is inspirational. On a smaller scale and without the fame, Charles Village is like Greenwich Village. Great things happen, but they just don't make it big. Here, the magic is contained. For example, take some friends and an evening at CVP and end with a haiku composed in perfect meter. It won't ever find its way to a literary journal, but it's a celebration of reality and creation:

Bucket o' beer. yeah.
Soggy nachos, salsa, mmm..
Intersession rocks.

Dark, smoky, cozy.
Underage and not a care.

They all know your name.

Booths with broken springs,
But the party's here each night.
Have a beer on her.

The Village isn't home only to students, either. At a world of its own, it offers diversity in people, not just places. Far from the limelight of pop culture, the phenomenon of "the persona" still takes effect and residents can take on superhuman character of the community. Instead of Michael Jordon, Brad Pitt and Britney Spears, there is Jerry Pablo. Samir. The guy with Turets. The other guy who would rather ask for \$0.35 every time than \$1 once. They come into one's life so often that one starts, in turn, to seek them out.

Charles Village is cool "because they're cool homeless people," sophomore Kerry Loreto said. Loreto said she will

miss the RoFo chicken man when the store's lease expires next year, and the University converts the building to new dorms.

For Hopkins students, the Village itself is the party whether one likes it or not. Here are the streets that students parade at night in tipsy clusters. There are the frat houses, the apartment parties, the dorms, the houses where people gather for "Friends," for Thursday night poker and for Saturday

dinner.

"I love beer and girls," sophomore Tope Akinbiyi said. "Charles Village has beer and girls. Therefore, I like Charles Village."

While there are no clubs, the Village is life as it happens on a daily basis. Maybe students can't live it up here, but they're not going to be giving it up any time soon. Hopkins, with its little satellite Village, is here to stay as Home-Sweet-Home.



FILE PHOTO

Charles Village offers food, drink and (limited) shopping near campus.

CHAZ: WEIGHING THE OPTIONS

Pros:

- Video Americain is pretty darn convenient.
- The Village hosts the best parade in Baltimore every year—if you like that sort of thing.
- Community atmosphere can be interesting.
- There are several nice coffee shops nearby.
- You can buy almost anything you want within a reasonable walking distance (if you're willing to pay too much for it).
- Most of the apartment buildings in the area are way close to campus.

Cons:

- Sometimes the age range makes it feel like Del Boca Vista but without the sun.
- Sketchy people hang out on your front steps, pretending to live in your building.
- Want to park? Fat chance.
- RoFo is the only store open 24 hours.
- Sam's Bagels has declined in quality of service and selection over the past few years.
- Eddie's is way too expensive.
- For some reason, no one in the area curbs their dogs. Yuck!

Join us next Monday.

The News-Letter is recruiting:

Business assistants
Copy readers
Photographers
Writers

NEWS-LETTER OFFICE

7:30 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 18, 2002
Free pizza!

Converted rowhouses: low rent, no baths

Why live in an apartment building with a washer/dryer when you can rough it in Waverly?

By Natalya Minkovsky

So, after two years in the dorms, you want an apartment with character. Many of the buildings in the area are old enough that the apartments have an old-fashioned style about them, but perhaps more than any apartment in an apartment building, an apartment in a converted row house has a chance of being interesting and original. Oh, and also less expensive. My roommate and I pay \$685 per month for a converted two-bedroom apartment on Guilford Ave., one of the cheapest living arrangements I know of besides the people who live in a rowhouse they share with

several other people.

Now, by "converted," I mean that the apartment wasn't designed with roommates in mind, since the row house used to be a single-family home. The house has three floors and has been converted into three apartments: a one-bedroom on the first floor, a two-bedroom on the second and a studio on the third. Because of the layout of the second floor, the apartment has three entrances: the main entrance, a kitchen entrance and a bedroom entrance. To get to the living room, bathroom or kitchen after I've gone to sleep, my roommate has to go through the main entrance to the apartment.

Aside from unusual layout, an

apartment in an Abell/Waverly row house is likely to have features you wouldn't find in a standard apartment. We have a skylight in our bathroom and an incredible sunset view from the room, which is accessible by way of the fire escape. We also have a small sunroom right off of the kitchen, which is great for breakfast or reading when the weather is nice. Many of the houses on Abell Ave. have stained glass windows, an attractive added bonus.

Of course, with the positive aspects of a rowhouse with "character" come some setbacks. Since the homes are so old, many of the conveniences we take for granted become less convenient, and in some cases, luxuries. An example: in a modern apartment, you can run an air conditioner and a toaster oven at the same time without thinking about it. In our apartment, the circuits are so old that prior to figuring out which electrical outlet was on which circuit, we ran the risk of blowing out a fuse if we used the microwave and blender at the same time or turned on the toaster oven while the air conditioner was on in one of the bedrooms. Depending on the house and landlord, you may or may not have laundry machines in the basement.

Since the basement of the

house I live in serves as my downstairs neighbors' art studio, my roommate and I have had to drag our laundry to St. Paul St. The plumbing can also be a problem — because of a remodeling mistake, our bath tub would leak into the downstairs neighbors' apartment if my roommate or I were to take a bath, but not when one of us showers. It would apparently cost something like thousands of dollars to re-model the bathroom, so we were basically told that if baths were a necessity, we might as well start looking for another place to live. Fair, I suppose, but not what we were expecting when we moved into a seemingly remodeled apartment.

Another possible setback of living on Guilford: the distance. Although the house is conveniently located between 31st and 32nd Streets, it is also three blocks away from campus. If you are the kind of person who likes to roll out of bed in the morning and be on campus in under five minutes, think about living somewhere else. Those three blocks seem awfully long if you have overslept and are in a rush, if it's late at night or if you're on crutches.

Since Guilford Ave. is somewhat away from the main area of Charles Village, there have been instances of very shady charac-

ters wandering around. We did get warned about it right away, though, because we have some sort of a community watch group in the neighborhood.

Since Guilford Ave. is part of the Abell/Waverly neighborhood, we also have recycling, a community newsletter and other such neighborly things. Of course, we are also surrounded by adult, responsible neighbors — family people who give us funny looks if we have more than a few people over. Some younger people on our block have been approached, and reproached, about having loud parties, even though the parties were probably not even that loud by college student standards. Living in a real neighborhood, and not an apartment building full of college students requires some consideration if you like to throw parties.

Overall, I've enjoyed living on Guilford Ave. Although it is not as convenient as my previous apartment, which was directly across the street from campus, the Guilford Ave. apartment is much nicer, with nearly-new hardwood floors, good lighting and a sunroom. It has character and is relatively inexpensive. I get a good workout walking to and from classes, and, as an extra bonus, I don't have to hear drunk sorority girls singing under my windows.



EUGENE YUM/NEWS-LETTER

Converted rowhouses offer apartment for low rent.

Wyman Towers

3100 St. Paul Street, 410-235-5600

WYMAN TOWERS

RENT SCALE:

Efficiency	\$400
Studio	\$475-\$500
1 Bedroom	\$550-\$650
2 Bedroom	\$800-\$900

AMENITIES:

Laundry facilities, cable-ready

UTILITIES PAID BY TENANT:

Electric/gas

DEPOSITS:

\$300 security deposit

RESTRICTIONS:

No dogs

PARKING:

Off-street parking, \$50/month

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

None

News-Letter Staff

The location of Wyman Towers is perhaps the greatest asset it has. It is on 3100 St. Paul, across from Eddie's Market and the Homewood. There also is Video Americana, a video rental shop with a large adult section, located on the basement level of the apartment itself. You can get your hair cut next door at the barber shop, as well. Most importantly, the daily walks to the Homewood campus take less than 10 minutes.

Wyman Towers was built in 1926 and has 141 apartments. In most rooms, the living room and the dining room are adjacently placed while the kitchen is separated from rest of the apartment.

The apartment offers a 24-hour maintenance service which can be reached via telephone. The brand new washers and dryers in the basement cost \$1.25 per load.

They are operated by a paid card system which means you don't have to carry around coins. The apartment has a security entrance system which is used to buzz up visitors.

It is fairly easy to have three people living in a two-bedroom apartment. Of the two rooms, one is bigger than the other and would be the ideal room for two people to share. Another option is to convert the living room in to a separate bedroom. This is very convenient if you prefer single rooms. The living room is separated from the rest of the living quarters and so privacy is protected. But the problem with this is that the person in the living room must go through his roommates' bedrooms to reach a bathroom.

As Hopkins students living at Wyman Towers, we pay decreased summer rates of \$400 a month. The major problem with Wyman Towers is the tempera-



FILE PHOTO

The laundry facilities at Wyman Towers are pricey, but reliable.

ture control system. The main water heaters of the building are not reliable, and this is not a good thing in the mornings before class. There isn't an air-conditioning system, and so the summers are hot and humid inside the apartment. The heat, however, is a bonus during winter.

Every apartment complex will have its problem of unwanted guests, and Wyman Towers is no exception. Mice and such are not a big concern, but there are some

insect problems. The plumbing system is very old, but with the 24-hour maintenance service, whatever problems that arise can be fixed in a hurry.

The last problem I find with Wyman Towers is the elevators, which tend to lose their reliability from time to time. Most visitors are always afraid that it will suddenly jolt and drop eight stories to a flaming wreck, but they always seem to grunt their way up and down.

The Charles Apartments

3333 N Charles Street, 410-235-8920

By Audrey Henderson

If you like to roll out of bed five minutes before your 9 a.m. class in Gilman and still be on time, living in The Charles Apartments is ideal. The Charles is actually closer to some of the classrooms on campus than even the AMRs. Located at 3333 N. Charles Street, The Charles is directly across the street from the MSE Library, making it a convenient place to call home.

The historic charm of The

erated freight elevator. Apartments are spacious by Charles Village standards and are outfitted with modern kitchen appliances and large windows that were recently installed. Although the majority of apartments are studios, efficiencies and single-bedroom apartments, there are about 20 two-bedroom and several three-bedroom apartments available. Some residents in The Charles have found that a single-bedroom apartment is not only spacious enough for two people, but they can each have their own room by turning the dining room into a second bedroom.

The Charles is a ten story building with a lot of residents, most of whom are Johns Hopkins University students, but not all. There are a few middle-aged professionals and graduate students, although the feeling is mostly of an upperclassmen residence. Rental rates vary depending on what floor you live on, with floors one to five being slightly cheaper than floors six to ten. This price difference is mainly due to the views that the higher floors provide and because the higher floors are farther away from ground noise. In my opinion, shelling out the extra money for a top floor apartment is worth it. The views are spectacular and, as discussed below, an escape from ground noise is most valuable on Friday and Saturday nights.

Laundry facilities are available in the basement, and there are enough machines that I have never had to wait for others to finish with their loads. For students moving from the dorms, the \$1.25 per load will take you aback at first, but it's just an extra quarter, and you get used to it

after awhile.

Building maintenance is quick and responsive to your needs and will fix almost any sort of problem you encounter. There is a staff of several maintenance men who work during the day out of an office in the basement, and you can either go directly to them with your problem or talk to Karen, the building's leasing manager. There is also an emergency number in case you lock yourself out or have a serious maintenance problem outside of normal working hours.

One feature of The Charles you must consider before signing a lease is P.J.'s. The popular Hopkins hangout and sometimes rowdy bar is located in the basement of The Charles. For frequenters of the bar, The Charles might be the housing option of your dreams. What could be better than to walk downstairs to the bar at night without even having to go out in the cold? P.J.'s is accessible through The Charles by walking through the basement to P.J.'s side door. However, if

you're not a P.J.'s regular, be prepared to listen to those who are when they get kicked out of the bar at 2 a.m. If you want to avoid the noise altogether, request a room on one of the top floors on the north side of the building.

If you decide that The Charles might be the place for you, visit the leasing office as soon as possible, if you haven't already. Apartments in The Charles are popular, and the leasing office is strict about sticking to the order of the waiting list when they offer new leases.

THE CHARLES

RENT SCALE:

Studios	\$420-435
Efficiencies	\$540-645
1 Bedroom	\$675-750
2 Bedroom	\$945-965
3 Bedroom	\$1245

AMENITIES:

Microwave (studios only), laundry room

UTILITIES PAID BY TENANT:

Electricity, cooking gas.

DEPOSIT:

Security, application fee (\$30)

RESTRICTIONS:

Small pets allowed with deposit

PARKING:

Lot available

Charles can be found in its spacious, mirrored foyer at the building's front entrance, the hardwood floors, high ceilings and detailed moldings found in each apartment and a hand-op-



EMILY NALVEN/NEWS-LETTER

It's like a dorm but without those pesky RAs telling you to shut down the meth lab you set up in your bathroom.

The Blackstone

3215 N Charles Street, 410-235-8920

By David Gonen

When I moved into the Blackstone a year and a half ago, my main reason was that it was so close to campus. That is still probably the best thing about it. It's not a bad place to live otherwise, it's just not one of the greatest values around.

It's really close to campus; the only apartment closer is probably its sister building the Charles. Shaffer is less than a five-minute walk and Gilman isn't much more.

The apartments range from efficiencies, studios and one bedroom to three bedrooms (sign up early if you want a three bedroom; there's only one in the whole building). The two bedrooms are quite spacious. There are two bedrooms, a fairly large bathroom, a nice-sized living room and a solarium. It's interesting to see how people turn their awkwardly sized solariums into the "beirut room."

The walls are very solid; usually you can barely hear noise from other rooms. That's probably because they have hundreds of coats of paint on them.

Some complain that the rental office may not be very pleasant or accommodating when it comes to things like taking packages (which they do not do anymore), but when it comes to maintenance, management is very agreeable and prompt.

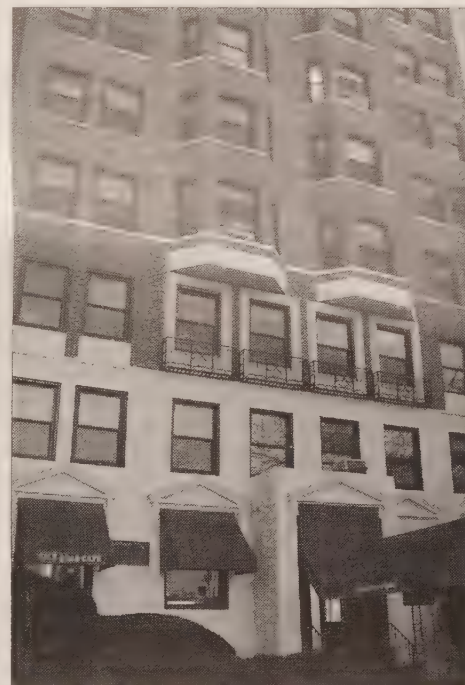
If you find you can't live without your fast dorm room ethernet connection and want to get something similar with DSL, it could be a pain. All of the wiring in the Blackstone is in less than prime condition, which made getting the DSL service a huge pain. Your

only option is Verizon, and I don't really want to get started about them.

The elevator is an adventure, and that's when it's working, which isn't as often as most residents would like. There are five washers and six dryers, but, on average, only three washers and four dryers are usually working, at their \$1.25 per load rate.

During the summer you can rent an air conditioner for \$125 per season. That is probably a good idea because the weather gets a bit sticky here in Baltimore during the summer. Although I don't know it to be typical, cockroaches are known to foray into some apartments during the summer months, for which the rental office will be happy to bring in exterminators.

In the winter, sometimes it's tough to moderate the temperature; the radiator has to be either on or off. The shower occasionally runs low on hot water, and once it becomes freezing, it loves to scald you with burning hot wa-



EMILY NALVEN/NEWS-LETTER

Similar to The Charles, which is only half a block to the north, The Blackstone offers easy access to the Silk Road Café.

ter.

The Blackstone does not allow dogs, although many people have them. The rental office being located in the Charles Apartment building probably makes that situation a bit easier.

With the Blackstone, you are paying to live very close to campus in a decently sized apartment. If you want your rent to go towards a possibly less problematic apartment complex with about the same space, there are plenty that are just a bit further away.

The Marylander

3501 St. Paul Street, 410-235-7829

By Michelle Fenster

About this time last year, I started looking out into the wide world of Charles Village for some place I could call "home." I knew I wanted to live by myself and in an apartment building (versus a row house). I'm pretty lazy, so it couldn't be too far of a walk from campus. Knowing I would have my car, I also wanted somewhere with parking. My parents threw in the caveat that the place I found had to be safe (by their standards) and reasonably priced. This is how I ended up in the Marylander.

The building itself is in a great location. Right across the street from the Hopkins Inn, and only a hop, skip and a jump away from Wolman and McCoy. So, it's easy to stay in touch with all of my friends still living in the dorms. Of course, the building is also near Union Memorial, so sirens going by at all hours are common. Then again, that's true for most areas of the city.

The lobby of the building is very beautiful and kept up well. The hallways are a little dingy, but that just means you do not have to worry about people loitering outside your door all day/night. The elevators are sub-par, but management recognizes the problem. It is a good day if three of the six elevators are working at a time. Of course, two are out of commission right now, as they get replaced. The others are scheduled to be replaced as well.

Once you are in the apartment itself, be prepared for a lot of space. While my own kitchen is pretty small, I've seen some of the others, and they are not all minuscule. I have a spacious living room, a foyer, a decent sized bathroom, dining area and large bedroom. (When I say large, I mean bigger than any of the double rooms I had on campus). Some of the apartments are carpeted and some

are not. If you get an apartment without carpeting, the rent will be cheaper, but you will be required to cover 80 percent of the floor with rugs. The apartments also have tons of closet space. (I have four closets in my one bedroom apartment).

The apartments come ready to be hooked up to cable and have telephone jacks already installed, but you will have to call and connect all of them yourself, along with your electricity. It isn't too much of an added expense, however. My electricity bills range from around \$35 in the summer to as low as \$15 in the winter.

I am pretty sure the building is compatible with DSL, but I do not know for sure, seeing as I'm too cheap to pay for it all by myself.

The building provides a refrigerator, gas stove and gas oven/broiler in every apartment. They will also rent you a window air conditioner for a nominal fee. If you want to purchase your own or already have one, they still require you to call them for the installation.

The best part about living in the Marylander is the 24-hour maintenance. Certain things will have to wait, but if your toilet overflows or you blow a fuse or something along those lines, they will come and fix you up relatively quickly. (The longest I have ever waited was a half-hour). On the other side, however, they do not always tell you they are going to be entering your apartment ahead of time. Now, I don't have anything to hide and I trust the employees of the building, but I just do not like people entering my apartment randomly without telling me first. Then again, they shovel snow and salt the sidewalks really fast when the weather gets bad, so that sorta makes up for everything.

Yes, the building has quiet

hours, and unlike the dorms, they are actually enforced. However, unless you have a complete jerk living underneath you (as I do), then you shouldn't have any real problems. No late night parties, but a couple of friends hanging out is fine.

There are definite pros and cons to living here, but overall the Marylander is a decent place to call home. There is a front desk that manages to at least keep the really sketchy people out (Hop Cop security they are not) and if you are locked out of your apartment, they have a spare key handy. While this certainly is not my dream apartment, it is definitely a decent place to be living.

THE MARYLANDER

RENT SCALE:

Studio	\$505-\$600
1 Bedroom	\$550-\$750
2 Bedroom	\$750-\$885

AMENITIES:

Laundry facilities, fitness room, barber shop, convenience store, video rental at front desk, water, heat, and gas included

UTILITIES PAID BY TENANT:

Electric

DEPOSITS:

1 month's rent or \$400, depending on credit check

RESTRICTIONS:

No pets, quiet hours at 11 p.m.

PARKING:

Basement garage, \$75/month

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

Game room, community room, yoga center



LIZ STEINBERG/NEWS-LETTER

Insert "farmer in the dell" joke here. And it's a good deal, too.

Dell House

2850 N. Charles Street, 410-659-5810

By Pete Goldwine

So what exactly are sophomores and juniors looking for in housing next year? First and foremost, getting out of University-owned housing! Sure, it's great to not have to worry about bills and toilet paper, but really, the prospect of having your own place without those pesky suitemates is a wonderful thought. As always, there is, of course, a great, big "but." Apartments and houses cost more out of pocket and are further away from campus.

Most don't know it exists, but there is a gem among the apartments. Not only is Dell House fairly close to campus, but it is also relatively cheap and has a lot to offer. Located at the corner of 29th St. and Charles St. the Dell House is only a 10 minute walk to Milton S. Eisenhower library and only five minutes to the JHMI Shuttle Stop. However, the proximity to Wyman Park requires a long, 15 minute walk to campus in the mornings.

The Dell House offers two and three bedroom apartments as well as two bed penthouse apartments, all of which have great views. Each apartment has floor-to-ceiling windows which flood the room with sunlight and offers a magnificent view of the city of Baltimore from Homewood Campus to the fireworks at the Inner Harbor. Word-to-the-wise, keep an eye on your drunken friends; the railings are far from sturdy. Wonderful in good weather, these windows can prove to be a bit of a disturbance in inclement weather, rattling loudly and catching the sound of every rain-drop hitting it.

Some of the things that most appreciate when coming from the dorms is the ample closet space and full kitchen. Some of the

apartments even have double ovens for those dinner parties we all love to have. The apartments in the Dell House all have gas ranges as well, which are great for cooking.

Just as with most of the apartments and houses in the area, the Dell House isn't perfect. Many times it has taken months of persistence and letters to the rental and maintenance offices in order to get work done.

Other than the few problems with maintenance and rattling windows, the Dell House is the perfect choice for students wanting to make the move to an apartment. The low rent, location and option of three bedroom apartments put Dell House a level above the rest.

DELL HOUSE

RENT SCALE:

2 Bedroom	\$785-\$845
3 Bedroom	\$940-\$1040
Penthouse (2 bed/2.5 bath)	\$1540

AMENITIES:

Heat, A/C, gas, laundry room

UTILITIES PAID BY TENANT:

Electric/phone

DEPOSITS:

First month's rent, security dep., application fees

RESTRICTIONS:

Pets allowed for non-refundable \$200 fee and \$15/month.

PARKING:

Underground garage, \$75/month

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

None



DEVRA GOLDBERG/NEWS-LETTER

A mammoth of an apartment building, the Marylander houses everything there is under the sun.

The Allston

3111 N. Charles Street, 410-752-7300

News-Letter Staff

The Allston has personality. Yeah, like that house in *The Shining* had personality. The walls might not bleed, but the lead paint does chip off. And while you might not find a corpse in your bathtub, you will be surprised with any variety of insects that could turn up there. Jack Nicolson might not have personally broken through any doors with an ax, but some of the doors look like he might have.

Seriously, though, the Allston is not as bad as was expected. I was told that we would have to pass the entire winter without heat. Not true. We have had heat on more than one occasion this winter. I was also told that the landlords never fix anything. Okay, only partially not true. When our bathtub wouldn't drain, they fixed it. They also told us that if we wanted to glue down the large chunks of linoleum coming up from our kitchen floor, we were more than welcome to try it ourselves, because there was nothing they could do about it.

The landlords can be difficult to get in touch with, since their office is in Mt. Vernon and they are only open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. There is a separate phone number for cases of extreme emergency, though. As well, there is an elderly gentleman who appears to be a groundskeeper and who appears to live in the basement, but we haven't quite figured out what his job is, so we don't like to bother him.

I was recently cheered up regarding my living situation when I saw an episode of "MTV Cribs," a show on which celebrities invite you into their homes. This particular episode featured Sean William Scott, the star of such films as *American Pie* and, more recently, *Dude, Where's My Car?* Well, imagine my surprise when I saw that Sean William Scott's kitchen floor is also missing large chunks of linoleum. If a movie star can live without a few pieces of linoleum, so can I, dammit.

The best part of the Allston just might be the fact that the building noticeably slopes to-

wards Charles Street. This presents all kinds of fun possibilities, like the gumball game. This is when you and a friend or roommate each take a gumball, start at the top of the living room and see whose gumball reaches the opposite wall first. Also exciting is hanging up anything on the walls. You know those levels you can use in any other apartment building? Well, not in the Allston.

The Allston might just be the cheapest living option outside of a row house. My roommate and I chose the apartment building over a row house because we felt we would be safer in an apartment building, especially because of the location. The building is across

the street from the Baltimore Museum of Art and the walk to campus is a matter of a couple of minutes. You can walk through the BMA's sculpture garden (not the best idea if you are alone and it's late at night) or by walking a few blocks down Charles.

You don't always feel secure inside the building because the front door is often propped open. It also looks like the lock has been picked more than one time. As far as mail security goes, you can forget about having a mailbox that locks, which is not so good, since the mailboxes are outside of the front door. However, the people living in the Allston, mostly Hopkins students, are all very

friendly, so knowing who your neighbors are sort of makes you feel safer.

With the Allston, you get what you pay for. But at the price you pay, you can't really complain about too much. It would be nice to not have lead paint, to control my own heat every day and to have a working showerhead. However, if you like repairing things, creative decorating and the shock value of telling people where you live, the Allston might be the place for you.

Don't get me wrong. I might make fun of the Allston, but I love the place. It's simply gold tooth, fur coat, big-pimpin' ghetto-fabulous.

St. Paul Court

3120 St. Paul Street, 410-243-8415

News-Letter Staff

The Saint Paul Court. It's the one across from Eddie's. Yeah, the one with the gate. That's right, Melrose.

When I was a freshman, I used to grab the gate from the outside and peer in, imagining what it looked like inside. It seemed like

building. I have had difficulty with the mail here. Frequently, I'll receive my neighbors' mail and vice-versa. Management is also supposed to alert you when you have a parcel, as all packages get left in the front office. Often, a very long time goes by without notification (sometimes over a week).

That reminds me of one of my main pet peeves with this place: If you go to the front office during normal office hours for whatever reason, don't be surprised if nobody is there.

Well, here's what you probably want to hear. The courtyard is very nice. There are a couple of fountains, a lot of trees, benches and a gazebo for those times you feel like dancing around drunk singing "I am 16 going on 17." There are also usually dogs running around barking outside, sometimes at ridiculous hours of the night. That reminds me: Don't cross the courtyard barefoot.

Even though all the buildings are connected, tenants of most of the buildings need to cross the courtyard (yes, actually go outside) to reach the laundry room or exercise room. There are only a couple of washers and dryers in the laundry room, as well. (As long as you have to go outside to access the laundry, you might as well go to the laundromats nearby. They have better washers and dryers and more washers and dryers, and the cost comes out to be about the same.)

The cement walkways and the wooden benches on the sides of the walkway are a bit run down, and the insides of each building are rather grungy looking. I can only remember a couple occasions that the maintenance staff have vacuumed the old, stained red carpet that covers the floor and stairs leading up to the apartments.

Since I have been there, the

staff has made some refurbishments to the complex. They modified — for the better — the fountain by the entrance (which is now the habitat of a couple of bright, orange fish). They enhanced the lighting in the courtyard. There are old-fashioned street-lamps at each corner of the walkway around the courtyard, as well as wall lamps on the outside walls of the apartment building.

St. Paul Court management is a topic all its own. They're not the friendliest people, that's for sure. It's not just their brusque manner that's a turn-off, but I heard a rumor that the manager wanted to paint the entire courtyard — gazebo and all — red and white. All we'd be missing then is a carousel and barber-shop quartet.

ST. PAUL COURT

RENT SCALE:

Junior 1 Bedrm	\$465-525
Studio	\$520
1 Bedroom	\$625-650
2 Bedroom	\$720-800

AMENITIES:

Laundry facilities

UTILITIES PAID BY

TENANT:

Electric/gas

DEPOSITS:

One month's rent

RESTRICTIONS:

Only small pets allowed

PARKING:

Street parking

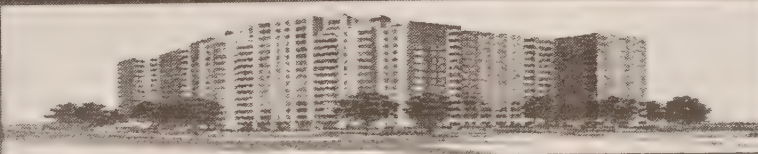
RECREATIONAL

FACILITIES:

Exercise center

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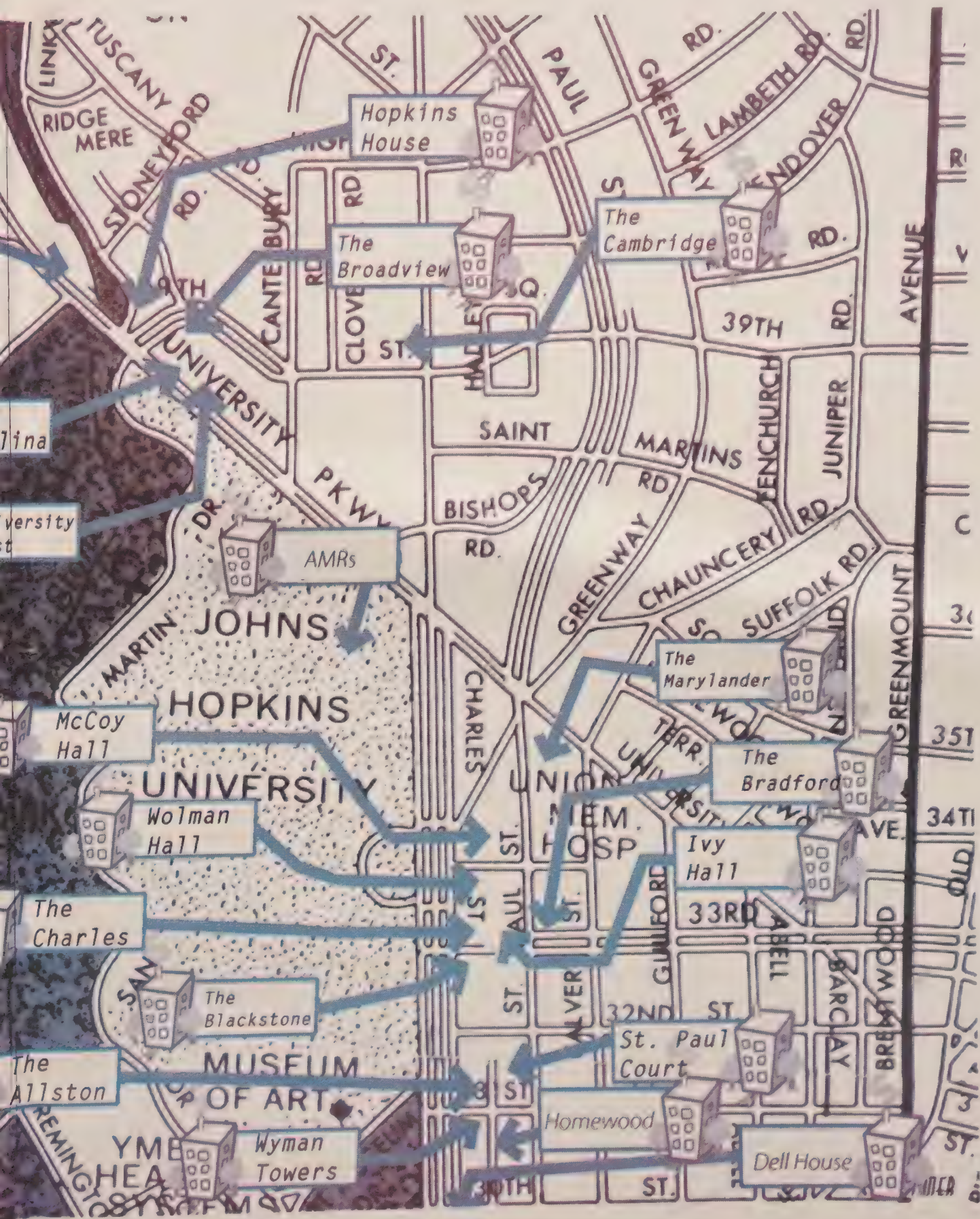
**105 West 39th Street at University Parkway
in Roland Park**

THE BROADVIEW
APARTMENTS AND FURNISHED SUITES



The N-L's Official 2002 Housing Map





GUILFORD LIVIN'

North of the border, up Guilford way

News-Letter Staff

Honestly, there's nothing exciting about Guilford, the area north of Homewood campus. Not that Charles Village is always abuzz with activity, but Guilford still moves at a much slower pace than its surrounding areas.

And that's not such a bad thing, either. The crime is not nearly as prevalent in Guilford as it is in Charles Village. Students generally aren't afraid to walk around at night (although it's still recommended not to travel alone), and there are usually fewer robberies reported there. It's also much quieter in the area, but that could be attributed to Guilford's relative distance from Union Memorial Hospital.

On the whole, Guilford is much more laid back than Charles Village — laid back and spread out. Walking across University Parkway means stepping from city to suburb, quite literally. You won't find any more row houses north of campus. Sure, it's not nearly as "cutesy" as Charles Village, but there's plenty more room to breathe in Guilford.

Although many students live in the large high rises along Charles St. and University, they only need to take a short walk to an area rich with greenery, flowering parks and large, beautiful houses owned by middle-to-up-

per-class families, professors and retirees. Anyone who misses the great outdoors should definitely think about Guilford. Sherwood Park is the only place in walking distance that beats out the President's Garden for bucolic beauty. Sure, it ain't exactly Yellowstone, but it certainly beats the crowded Beach on a Saturday afternoon.

The expansive nature of the Guilford area has its drawbacks, as well. If you want to do some shopping, expect to do some walking. There's no Eddie's Market down the street.

Even so, there are quite a few options for shopping in Guilford.

Shopping Around

First of all, Guilford now boasts the brand new **One World Café**, located right across the street from the lacrosse field. The food is a bit pricey, and if you like meat, forget it (they don't serve any), but the place serves some nice coffee and the desserts are awesome.

If you're hankering for something a little more upscale, there are several high-class restaurants in Guilford. **The Polo Grill** serves American food with a chic attitude and a steep bill. The eatery, which is located in the fancy Colonnade, consistently makes the top five of best Baltimore restaurants lists. Another solid choice

for expensive dining is **Jeannier's** in the Broadview. French food, elegant attire and fine cuisine: This place is perfect for a romantic evening (wink, wink).

The Indian food in Guilford makes the stuff at Tamber's taste like slop. Try **The Ambassador**, located (where else?) at The Ambassador apartments, right near the Broadview. Students don't usually live in this building, but they certainly eat there. The Indian cuisine is great. We recommend the tandoori chicken.

Students who opt to live in the Hopkins House or Broadview quickly learn to love the **Hopkins Deli** on 100 W. 39th St. Pick up a loaf of bread, some candy or even a romance novel on your way back from class. The Deli also stocks beer and liquor, but the prices can get a bit steep.

The great thing about living in Guilford is that it's not too far from the **Rotunda**, **SuperFresh** or **Cold Spring Lane**, all of which can be walked to in under 15 minutes. Even 39th St. in Hampden is pretty close — so, if you move into the Guilford area, you absolutely must spend a lazy Saturday grabbing a "Hon Bun" at **Café Hon**, followed by thrift store shopping at **Galvanize**.

A Pretty Penny

All things considered, there are

plenty of advantages to living north of campus. But be prepared to pay a price for it, too. Many of the apartments are more expensive, sometimes by as much as \$150 a month.

As always, though, a little ingenuity can make a huge financial difference. Ask your landlord if you can room three people in a two bedroom apartment. Sometimes a dining room can be converted into a fine extra bedroom.

The Northway, which looks like that building in *Ghostbusters* and is the source of numerous scary stories, was almost taken off the market to students and converted into an old folks' home. Fortunately, Hopkins stepped in and helped keep one of the few affordable housing options avail-

able for students.

Anyway, many students don't mind paying extra when they consider the added safety of living further from campus.

Of course, living further from campus also means walking to campus. The uphill walk from the Hopkins House means never being able to wake up 10 minutes before your 9 a.m. Occ Civ section. Not cool. But at least you'll be in great shape after a few semesters.

The only complaint students in the area near Charles Street usually have is the lack of a close 24-hour convenient store. If you often have late night cravings for Ben & Jerry's and you don't plan on owning a car next year, Guilford might not be quite right for you.



FILE PHOTO

Ah, Guilford. Slightly off the Charles St. axis, but charmingly upscale.

University One

1 E. University Pkwy, 410-467-2300

News-Letter Staff

I didn't have major complaints about the privately-owned condominiums on the corner of St. Paul and University Parkway before the rehabilitation. The building is extremely safe, offers some decent amenities and is very close to campus. (Wake up 15 minutes before class, skip the shower, and you'll get there on time.)

The strict security system requires residents to use Wolmanesque access cards to enter the building. All visitors must sign in at the front desk with the doorman and wait in the lobby to receive permission to enter the apartments.

Many residents and frequent

visitors find the process onerous — but college students' parents love the fact that their kids are living safely in Baltimore.

The 15-story building has 11 apartments on each floor. The units range from efficiencies to those with two bedrooms and two bathrooms. Some kitchens are small, but they all have dishwashers. The living room and bedrooms have central air systems adjustable for each room.

All utilities are included in the rent so it's nice to use the dishwasher everyday and keep bedrooms toasty warm in the winter. The great big windows in University One let plenty of sun in and allow for awesome views from higher floors.

An added bonus is the small

balconies outside most apartments above the third floor. From my balcony on the ninth floor I can see Memorial Stadium, the MSE library and the ships docked near Fell's Point all at once. At night, the city skyline is dazzling.

The roof-top pool is not big enough for laps, but it's nice to take a dip in after running on the treadmill or pedaling the stationary bikes in the small workout room.

Another noticeable transformation over the past year and a half is the resident population. Senior citizens were the majority last year, but Hopkins students are quickly taking over — last summer about 30 more students moved in. On my floor this year, my three adjacent neighbors are

students, though the rest of the apartments are occupied by older residents.

The maintenance staff is very friendly and, most of the time, prompt in fixing any small repairs.

Because the apartments are each separately owned, students who rent have mixed experiences with their landlords.

Because it is a condominium complex, one thing is for sure: There are many rules that govern living here (i.e., curtains must be white, garbage cannot be disposed of after 10 p.m., no pets allowed — hide the fish!).

Despite the rules, University One is a great place to live. T.V. stars think it's a pretty cool place, too: *Homicide* cast-members were once spotted hanging out in the hospitality room of University One when scenes of the show were being filmed across the street.

The apartments that are rented out to students usually turnover in

May or June. To find out about available apartments, stop by the lobby and ask the doorman on duty.

UNIVERSITY ONE

RENT SCALE:

Varies, depending on unit owner

AMENITIES:

Laundry facilities, 24-hour doorman

UTILITIES PAID BY TENANT:

None

RESTRICTIONS:

Must contact a local realtor in order to rent.

PARKING:

Must own unit to use the garage

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

Rooftop pool, exercise facilities

University West

104-106 W. University Pkwy, 410-467-2800

By Charles Donefer

Some people say that Baltimore is just another filthy working-class town past its prime, if it ever had one. Some people say that Baltimore is a good place to live cheaply, but not well. Those people obviously haven't lived in University West. Baltimore did indeed have glory days, which were apparently about 80 years ago, when UW was built.

Its old-style glory's evident as one walks in one of the two front doors (University West is actually two unconnected buildings). The carpeted and softly lit hallways instantly give one the impression of class that newer buildings, such as the Marylander, lack.

Inside the apartments, spacious living and dining rooms combined with large windows and hardwood floors make the apartments at University West some of the best within walking distance of campus.

Of course, there are downfalls, not the least of which is the exorbitant rents, which are sig-



FILE PHOTO
Home to many N-L editors, Uni West apartments sport classy bathrooms.

nificantly higher than most other apartment buildings, especially

for one-bedroom units. In addition, the floor is re-varnished and the walls are re-painted for each new tenant, which sounds ideal, but after dozens of tenants, the most recent coat of paint comes off on everything. Down in the laundry rooms, which contain only four washers and dryers each, one of the dryers is always broken. In the winter, the heaters hiss and whine loudly all night long, whether or not you turn up the thermostat.

Otherwise, these apartments are hard to beat. The kitchens are reasonably sized and include dishwashers. The bathrooms range from spacious to decent, but are always in good shape. The bedrooms and closets have plenty of space as well.

As for location, The Physics

Department should take note that the closest academic building to University West is Bloomberg, a quick dash through the Carnegie Institute garage and down San Martin Drive. Lower quad denizens should allow themselves 15 minutes to get to class. Shuttles run down University Parkway occasionally, but it's much harder to flag them down than it is in Charles Village, so you have to call one and wait around 45 minutes for one to drop by.

Parking is usually available somewhere on University, but it could get to be somewhat of a hike late on weeknights. Jocks have an easy time getting to the AC and the lacrosse field, which is across the street. Of course, those who don't play on the field or attend the games still get some of the experience since the PA system is loud enough to make itself heard through closed windows.

In general, University West provides the high life at a high price. If you are willing to pay through the nose, you can live very well.

UNIVERSITY WEST

RENT SCALE:

Efficiency	\$720-\$800
1 Bedroom	\$800-\$900
2 Bedroom	\$1025-\$1065

AMENITIES:

Dishwasher, refrigerator, cable-ready, A/C, laundry facilities

UTILITIES PAID BY TENANT:

Electric, gas, phone

DEPOSITS:

Security deposit equal to one month's rent

RESTRICTIONS:

Cats on management's approval

PARKING:

Street parking

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

None



EUGENE YUM/NEWS-LETTER

Steep rent and strict rules keep students away from this Eden.

By James Lieu

Only a few collective places off campus ever generate an awe-inspiring "Wow, how did you get in there?" reaction. The Cambridge Apartments, located at 3900 N. Charles St., is one of those places. This large, spacious apartment complex is a healthy five blocks away from campus, but is definitely worth the trek down Charles.

The tall, elongated red brick building gives you a great first impression. Walk up to the door,

and it automatically opens for you with a doorman usually there to give you a smile. Unlike other places with strict sign-in policies, most of the guests at Cambridge are let in with little or no questioning. Little conveniences such as these make this complex stand out from the rest. The lobby is furnished with plush carpeting, comfy chairs and a glittering chandelier, giving off an even hotel-like atmosphere. Downstairs, there is quite a nice fitness center, along with the laundry room and a grocery store. The Cambridge

also has one of the better-kept secrets in the area: a nice pool table, beating the faded ones down in the Wolman and McCoy basements by far. The elevators are also fast and responsive, leaving you with no inclination to take the steps up 11 floors.

The Cambridge has some of the best room layouts in the area, with a large, spacious living room and sizable bedrooms. The redone wooden floors add a classic feel while the upgraded kitchens and bathrooms make sure you don't have ancient piping or bad wallpapering. Maintenance requests are done rapidly so the apartment is usually well maintained. Some of the two and three bedrooms offer a "deluxe" layout and include a den, which can serve as an extra bedroom or study. These also happen to have some of the better views of the area as they are located only on the ends of the complex.

So why can't you find many students living here? Well, even though the suites are nice and roomy, it still is a good five blocks off-campus and almost nine blocks from Shriver. Sucks if you don't have a car and have 9:00 a.m. class in Shaffer. Plus, where will all of your friends be staying? Cambridge is just far enough out there that it makes you too lazy to

go anywhere else, which means you will frequently be staying home.

The walls are also incredibly thin, which makes nailing things into them pointless. This also causes noise to travel, and with an elderly population that far exceeds the student population, that is not good. Complaints can be frequent even if you only have the TV on too loud. One thing is certain, however: make sure your parties fall into the quiet, intimate setting, or someone will tell you so.

Perhaps the biggest obstacle in getting a place at The Cambridge is the rent. Prices range

from \$670-695 for an efficiency, to a hefty \$2621-2771 for a 3 bedroom deluxe. Of course, let's just say that you can afford this price and are still interested. The Cambridge no longer allows parents as co-signers to the lease, meaning you have to prove that you can provide financially by yourself.

Think you can get through the weeding out process? Then Cambridge is more than worth it. Big rooms, many positive amenities, parking and comfort make the low noise level easier to deal with. Besides, parties were meant to be in row houses anyway.

THE CAMBRIDGE

RENT SCALE:

Efficiency	\$670-\$695
1 Bedroom	\$954-\$1027
2 Bed/1 Bath	\$1077-\$1117
2 Bed/2 Bath	\$1108-\$1193
2 Bed/2 Bath/Den	\$1329-\$1489
3 Bed/2 Bath/Den	\$2621-\$2771

AMENITIES:

Large floor plans, underground parking, rooftop pool, fitness room, laundry room, grocery store, doctor's office, garden, doorman

UTILITIES PAID BY TENANT:

Electric

DEPOSITS:

\$250 or half a month's rent, \$35 app fee, \$150 redecoration fee

RESTRICTIONS:

Must be able to qualify financially, cats only (\$15/cat)

PARKING:

Back lot (\$50/month), underground (\$60), Valet (\$80)

Hopkins House

110 W. 39th Street, 410-889-6121

News-Letter Staff

Without a doubt, the apartments at the Hopkins House are among the nicest available to students in the area. Even the smallest studio apartments come with a spacious balcony, hardwood floors, freshly-painted walls (they paint each apartment before a new tenant moves in), a great view from the large window and stylish living.

Like everything in life, the Hopkins House has its disadvantages as well, and the first that comes to mind is the apartment's

far enough that it has a different zip code from everything on campus.

If you like that extra 10 minutes of sleep in the morning or need to visit your apartment frequently during the day and don't want to walk far to get to it, then the Hopkins House is not for you. A car definitely makes life easier (trust me on this one), and you can even park it in the building's convenient indoor garage for a price.

The Hopkins House is close to the Rotunda, and on the ground floor there is an adequate laundry facility. There is also a pool and an exercise room available if you pay the monthly charges.

Also on the ground floor is the Hopkins Deli, which is more like a mini mart and sells pretty much everything from Jack Daniels to cheddar cheese.

Some things about the Hopkins House apartments need improvement, or at least updating. The heating/air conditioning unit

is downright antediluvian, but it works, and it doesn't look too shabby. It's simply not as technologically advanced as it could be. I'm convinced that my oven is a vintage 1960s model; not that I ever have the time to use an oven in the first place, but a newer model would be nice.

The tenants in the Hopkins House are mostly older middle-class types, but there is a fairly

dense student population as well. Most of the tenants are quiet and considerate, and they expect the same from you, so if you can't live without the Spice Girls at 11 p.m. on a Monday night and don't plan on using headphones, watch out. People will knock on your door (again, you'll have to trust me on this one).

This is my second year living in the Hopkins House, and I've enjoyed it. Based on the quality of its apartments, I would recommend the Hopkins House to almost anyone. Its unpleasant man-

agement, however, leaves a lot to be desired. To say the least, it sometimes takes a rough exterior to put up with it.

HOPKINS HOUSE

RENT SCALE:

Studio	\$585-640
1 Bedroom	\$760-845
2 Bedroom	\$900-945

AMENITIES:

Private balconies, cable available, air-conditioning, walk-in closets

UTILITIES PAID BY TENANT:

None

DEPOSITS:

\$35 application fee and security deposits may apply

RESTRICTIONS:

No dogs; \$150 deposit for cats and \$15 per-month pet fee

PARKING:

\$60-65 per-month garage

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

Residential pool, exercise facilities, tanning booths



EUGENE YUM/NEWS-LETTER

Hopkins House is nice as long as you don't mind dealing with the nasty management

The tenants in the Hopkins House are mostly older middle-class types, but there is a fairly dense student population as well.

unpleasant management. I was nearly evicted this year because my father was ten days late paying the rent (and all this after never having been late on a payment in the two years I've lived here). In fact, I was even summoned to the rent division of the District Court of Maryland one fine morning. I didn't end up going, but just being summoned was more than enough for me.

Another time I brought back a small coffee table from my home on Long Island. Upon entering the elevator with the table, I was told that I should use the freight elevator and that I could be fined \$100 if I did it again. And finally, there are my curtains. They're a dark burgundy color, and the management at the Hopkins House doesn't like them. Only white curtains will be tolerated here, so be sure to read every line of your lease carefully before you go out and buy those expensive, colorful curtains.

Aside from the management, the other potential problem with the Hopkins House is that it is a bit far from campus. While it's not as far away as the Carlyle, it's

News-Letter Staff

The Broadview Apartments offer quality living at an affordable price. The halls and elevators are clean and the apartments are simple, yet comfortable. They have carpeting and sturdy windows, which can be a bit difficult to open. Some of the units also have a balcony.

The walls are made of plaster but are pretty thin. Noises can be heard quite easily between neighboring units. All utilities are paid for, except electricity.

The maintenance staff cleans the carpeted halls often and keep the apartments running smoothly and efficiently. The apartment staff, usually located around the front desk as you enter the building, is friendly and helpful. There is someone there 24 hours a day.

Maintenance is also available during normal work hours, in case you need to fix any problems in your apartment. During the day, there is usually a staff member waiting to open the front doors for you and help you carry your groceries or luggage or even get

you a cart to lighten your load. I noticed their hospitality often times makes life much easier.

Security is relatively good. There are two entrances into the

THE BROADVIEW

RENT SCALE:

Studio	\$525-\$585
1 Bedroom	\$525-\$730
2 Bedroom	\$850-\$910

AMENITIES:

24-hour front desk service, laundry room, bike storage room, cable-ready, deli in building

UTILITIES PAID BY TENANT:

Heat, electricity

DEPOSITS:

One month's rent

RESTRICTIONS:

No pets

PARKING:

Outdoor (\$60), indoors (\$75)

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

Exercise room, social room w/ library

building. The rear entrance (facing University Parkway) is always locked and only Broadview tenants can enter, using an access card. The front entrance (on the other side of the building) is open during the day but remains locked after 10 p.m. However, because there is always someone at the front desk, you can usually get buzzed in if you don't have an access card.

The apartment offers all kinds of amenities, such as an exercise room with treadmills, a nautilus machine, stair climbers and a television to make your workout less monotonous. The Broadview also has a small deli, selling a variety of items such as toiletries and food. So in case you need a gallon of milk or just a toothbrush but don't feel like taking a shuttle down to Superfresh, the deli offers a convenient al-

ternative.

The laundry room has new laundry units put in not too long ago, so they operate impeccably. However, when all of the units are running, sometimes the circuit breaker blows, leaving your wet laundry sitting in a non-operational dryer. So doing laundry when not too many people are around is a good idea.

The building also has a French restaurant on the second floor and a hair salon on the first floor.



EUGENE YUM/NEWS-LETTER

The Broadview is about a ten minute walk from campus

The Carolina

108-114 W. University Pkwy., 410-235-8000

News-Letter Staff

If you're looking for a place to live around campus that's spacious, beautiful and has great management, there is no better place to live than the Carolina apartments. Located at 108-114 W. University Parkway, right next to the Broadview, the complex looks somewhat like a grown-up AMR. The brick building, built in the 1920s, is U-shaped with a grassy area out front, opening

onto University Parkway.

The Carolina offers a wide variety of apartment choices, but no matter how many bedrooms you get, once inside, the apartments are equally beautiful. The floors are all hardwood, generally well-kept. Most apartments have both a living and dining room, with plenty of space for having people over — not to mention great parties. As well, some have fake fireplaces, but at least look pretty and give you a mantelpiece on which to place photos. The kitchens, in comparison with other local buildings, are enormous, allowing at least three people to occupy

them and cook at once. Cabinet space abounds, with glass cabinets throughout the kitchen and plenty of pantry space. Gas stoves and a refrigerator are provided. Windows flank the entire apartment — both the dining and the living room have three large windows.

Like most older apartment buildings, the Carolina is heated by radiators, which means there is only one option for heat — on or off. The building, however, is well-insulated, and radiators are rarely necessary to keep warm, even in the middle of winter. Air-conditioning is not provided, but window units can be easily installed. Those concerns, however, are mitigated by the size and spaciousness of the rest of the apartment.

The best part about the Carolina apartments is the management. As you talk to other students, you will discover that many of the local apartment managers

are horrible to deal with. Friends of mine have commented on being "mentally undressed" by their unsavory landlords, and others have problems — such as non-working heaters and stopped drains — that go unfixed for months.

The Carolina is managed by Vita from Real Estate Dimensions, who is by far the sweetest landlady ever. She'll do whatever she can to make the apartment nice; problems are fixed almost immediately by Rusty, the on-site superintendent. Rusty is happy to fix anything he can, and if he can't, he'll have someone out there almost immediately who can. For one occupant of her buildings, Vita personally took on Verizon to get the phone installed — how many landladies do you know who'll do that?

At present, a two-bedroom apartment costs \$810 — not significantly more expensive than institutional-type complexes like the Marylander or the Broadview and certainly much less expensive than the dorms. It's a short walk to campus around the lacrosse field, and it is per-

fectly located next to the Hopkins Deli and One World Café. For the costs involved and the space provided, there is no better apartment complex around Hopkins.



FILE PHOTO

Carolina apartments are open and spacious.

THE CAROLINA

RENT SCALE:

1 Bedroom	\$590-\$610
2 Bedroom	\$840
3 Bedroom	\$1200

AMENITIES:

Laundry machines, cable ready

UTILITIES PAID BY TENANT:

Electric/gas

DEPOSITS:

One month's rent

RESTRICTIONS:

No dogs

PARKING:

Outdoor lot, \$50/month

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

None

The Carlyle

500 W. University Pkwy, 410-467-9890

News-Letter Staff

The apartments at the Carlyle are really big (probably some of the largest you'll encounter in your housing search). They also have lots and lots of closet space.

The building offers one and two bedroom apartments. The one bedroom apartments are really big enough for two people to live in comfortably. Likewise, I've seen three people living in some of the two bedroom apartments. Adding that extra person can make the rent payments a lot more affordable.

The two bedroom apartments come with two bathrooms (really nice after coming from the dorms). The apartments facing University Parkway have a better view than the apartments facing the back, and they tend to be a lot warmer because of the sun. But the rear-facing apartments offer balconies and a great view of the Hopkins House — most of these people have really big windows with no curtains, and you can get some pretty good laughs on a lonely Saturday night.

For the most part, the apart-

ments are in good condition, and maintenance is usually very prompt at fixing any problems (though maybe not at getting rid of mice). If an appliance breaks, they'll just put in a brand new one. For those of you worried about noise complaints (watch out at the Cambridge) you won't get very many here. This is because each apartment is a self-contained fire cell with concrete walls and ceilings. I haven't heard much from my neighbors in the two years I've been here.

The building offers some furniture for students at no extra cost. This includes a bed, dresser and desk for each room, as well as a dining table with four chairs. The provided furniture is a bit small (maybe it was designed for minime) so plan on at least buying your own desk. All apartments have heating and air conditioning. This is subject to building control though, so it has to get pretty warm before they switch over to a/c around April.

The resident population is mostly made up of students and old people (a few have lived here since the day this place was built).

In general, you will see a mix of people since the building itself is partially a Quality Inn Hotel (each floor has both hotel rooms and apartments). There is a resident discount for the hotel rooms and they're really convenient for visiting family.

The Carlyle is located at 500 West University Parkway. While it may seem a long way from campus compared to the dorms (and it is), the walk isn't too bad once you get used to it. It takes anywhere from 15 to 20 minutes to get to class. The shuttle stops at the Carlyle (fixed route to the Rotunda too).

THE CARLYLE

RENT SCALE:

1 Bedroom	\$700
2 Bedrooms	\$960

AMENITIES:

Cable and satellite ready
Laundry facilities
24-hour desk attendant/doorman
Dishwasher
Hotel rooms in building
Restaurant
Hair salon

UTILITIES PAID BY TENANT:

Electric

DEPOSITS:

One month's rent

RESTRICTIONS:

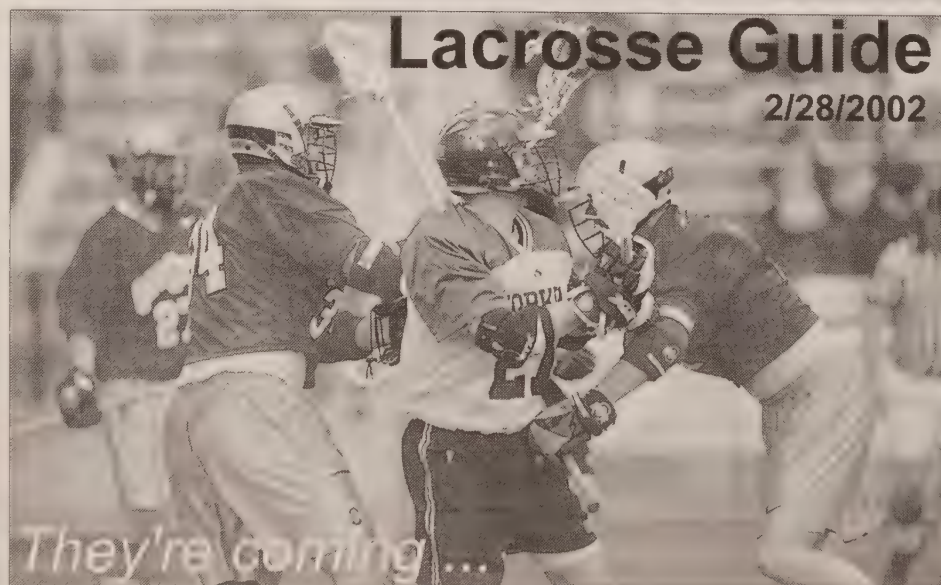
No pets
No music lessons

PARKING:

Limited garage availability.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

Fitness center
Seasonal rooftop pool
Student lounge/study room



Lacrosse Guide

2/28/2002

HELPFUL HINTS

A guide to hosting a rowhouse party

By Mike Spector

There's one thing expected of Charles Village rowhouse residents — no, it is almost a requirement. Parties.

With the exception of fraternities, rowhouses provide the largest, most comfortable venue for a drunken gathering. For those looking to occupy a rowhouse in the future, the following will provide guidelines for a successful soiree, as well as tips on how to keep your dwelling from becoming so messy that not even you will want to live there anymore.

Preparation

Before any partying can begin, many preparations must be made. The nature of the rowhouse will inevitably pit you and your roommates in between two other homes, likely full of notable neighbors. This being the case, the first step in any party preparation plan is warn your neighbors. Go to each of your neighbors and simply tell them that you're having a party. If they're not too old, it's a good idea to invite them. Also, be sure to stress that they can call you at any point to tell you if it's getting too noisy next door. The knowledge that you're having a party will make them a little less sensitive to the noise, an invite will make them more amiable to the loud partying and a phone call to you first is much better than a preliminary phone call to the Bal-

timore City Police. If the police get a call from your neighbors, consider your party kaput.

Now that you've appeased the neighbors, interior preparations must be made. This involves three main items: furniture, music and alcohol.

The first thing to do in your home is to move all of the furniture that may impede motion. Maximize your area. Move all of the furniture in your house so that you have the most wide-open space possible. Also be sure to close and/or lock any doors that lead to rooms that you don't want people hanging out in or spilling drinks all over.

As for music, there are many solutions. A simple stereo will do the trick. If the equipment is available, hooking up an mp3 player from your computer to speakers works very well. The best party atmosphere leaves the partygoer no room without music, so make sure that most of the designated party areas have some harmony going.

Lastly, the item that makes or breaks any party will also break your wallet. People will come to your party looking for free booze and if you run out of it, they will leave in a heartbeat. For a sizable party, expect to spend somewhere between \$120-160. This will get you enough vodka, rum, gin, Everclear, Kahlua and other liquors of choice to make your party aptly seductive.

Unfortunately, this doesn't include munchies and mixers, which will easily cost another \$60-100. And, oh yeah, you'd better have a lot of plastic cups. Once you've got your alcohol, put it all in one central location for your guests to get it. If your basement is amenable, put it all down there. This will give the rest of your house some breathing room, as everyone will flock to the basement for the alcohol. It will also cut down on the "disturbing the peace" noise factor.

Controlling the Party

It's always a good idea to have one roommate that's not quite so drunk, but be sure that everyone is keeping an eye on things. You can still have fun, but if something gets spilled or broken, it needs to be attended to immediately before it causes larger problems. If you're feeling drained on funds, go around with a jar at some point and ask for donations to the party. If done assertively, this can cut your party costs in half. Most people don't mind dropping a couple of bucks. It's up to you to decide if it's rude and tacky.

Also, if you can help it, try to keep the people hanging around outside your house to a bare minimum. The external noise they generate can quickly lead to a visit from the police. If the police do arrive, do whatever they say, because the police in this city are

not into talking things out. If they give an ultimatum that entails ending the party, do it, or you'll be sorry later. Turning off music is a start. A loud voice telling everyone to leave several times will also work. Another good trick is to turn lights on and off at a rapid pace. This will signal to everyone that you want them all gone, like, now.

Cleaning up

The next morning, it's time to attend to the Armageddon that was unleashed the night before. First go around with trash bags and collect all the finished and unfinished drinks that are all over the place. The next step is vacuuming up all the munchies that are crumbled on the carpets. Finally, it's a good idea to use some kind of wood floor cleaner to attend to the floor, unless you're okay with it being sticky and nasty for eternity.

Also, in

the course of normal living, be sure to vacuum, clean the bathroom and clean the kitchen at least once a week. It will keep your house comfortable and appealing to others, and make the clean up after your party not nearly as disgusting. After you've done all this, and lost a good amount of money, you may want to wait a while before throwing another get together. Or, after trashing your house, having people try to hook up in your bedroom and breaking it all up when the police come, you may find yourself saying what my roommate and I always say the next morning: "That wasn't so bad — let's do it again."



JASON GORDON/NEWS-LETTER

This may look like fun, but cleaning up won't be.

After Wolman: cooking for yourself

By Teresa Matejovsky

Junior year: It promises a lot. Yeah, you might have more work. But, you're finally an upperclassman. You get to find a house of your own. You don't have an R.A. anymore. You're one year closer to graduation.

Plus, you're off the meal plan.

No longer is lunch a block of time in Wolman from 11:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Dinner doesn't disappear with the turn of the lock on the Depot's doors at 7 p.m. Saturday night. You're not paying

\$1,600 a semester for meals you don't eat, only to go out and spend more on Chinese carry-out and late-night trips to Uni-Mini.

Finally, you're on your own. However, while surviving on one's own is something we all aspire to, the reality often hits you in the face a little harder than you expected. Feeding yourself becomes a skill you have to relearn. More than just knowing how to use a

knife and fork, eating now involves planning before and dishes after.

Although Sodhexo isn't cooking for you anymore, neither is

Mommy. As an upperclassman, it becomes essential to learn to use the kitchen and spend wisely ... whether or not you've done either before. Start thinking about it. Use the summer as practice. By first semester next year, you can have your survival skills mastered.

Unless you aspire to have RoFo supply your diet for the entire next year, this means learning how to grocery shop and how to use the kitchen. How to engage the microwave, preheat the oven, do the dishes. If you're adventurous, maybe even how to read a cookbook. (If you can read Orgo or Econ, you can read a cookbook. Promise.)

"Uni-Mini is great, but there are only so many chicken parms you can eat before you need a little diversity," said senior Brett Gutterman.

While the dining halls are hardly fine "dining" experiences,

Unless you aspire to have RoFo supply our diet for the entire next year, this means learning how to grocery shop.

and meal equiv can cover either a sandwich or a drink (but not both) the meal plan did cover some bases that you now have to take

over. Food was waiting for you when you wanted it. You didn't have to do dishes. And all-you-can eat food is not a bad solution for a hungry stomach and a skinny wallet. Now it's your responsibility to keep both your stomach and wallet full, the dish pile contained to the sink and the roaches away.

First off, there's no need to wear yourself out with attempts at cordon bleu your first night in a kitchen of your own. Even the best cooks know the limit of what they can manage. And some students wouldn't even classify themselves under the label of "cook."

"I'm afraid for my life," sophomore Anna Stirgwoit said about having to cook for herself next year. However, even the worst

Continued on Page 22

How not to get jumped in Baltimore

By Cara Gitlin

Having personal knowledge of a tall male friend of mine being robbed at gunpoint (okay, so it turned out to be a cap gun) on University Parkway, I can't really fearlessly prance around campus on my own after dark anymore. As I hear about more crimes occurring in broad daylight, I am a little concerned for my safety. I come from a very small town, and when I got to Baltimore, I didn't

know enough to be aware of my surroundings. I just was not used to living in the city, and I am sure that many freshmen are in the same boat. I mean, I come from a town where everyone leaves their doors unlocked, so any city would have been a shock to me.

Now, after three-plus years of surviving the streets of Baltimore, I know a little better. So here's some advice on how to keep yourself safe.

Rule No. 1: Don't leave anything unlocked. Doors, windows,

cars, anything that can be locked, lock it. Twice. It's just common sense. The sad fact is that you can't really trust anybody anymore.

Rule No. 2: Don't leave anything out in the open un-

attended. Don't leave your laptop in the library for hours. Don't leave a purse on the front seat of your car. Don't leave your jewelry right in front of your ground-floor window. You are just asking for trouble if you don't keep an eye on your possessions.

Rule No. 3: Take advantage of

I feel the safest when I know that someone is watching my back.

the security escorts. This goes beyond just the normal shuttle service. If you are in the vicinity of campus you can call the shuttle and they will pick you up. I know they are not exactly known for their quick response times, but you know you are better off riding the shuttle.

If you find yourself in an unknown or uncomfortable situation, even if the shuttles are not running

anymore, you can always call Security and they will send someone to pick you up and escort you home.

Student safety is their top priority, so they really won't mind.

If you can help it, no one should really be walking home alone late at night.

You also really have to be on the lookout for other people's safety as well. We are all students here, and we're all in this together. If you see something suspicious, report it. Just because it's not your car being broken into doesn't mean you shouldn't do something about it. But don't try and be a hero. Call Security or call the police if you see something going on. They know what they're doing, and they'll keep

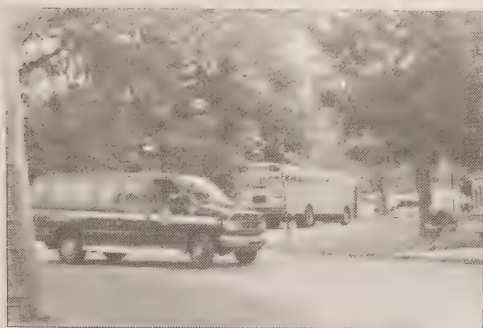


FILE PHOTO

Hop Cops are around to help you, also.

everyone safe if we let them know what's going on.

I hate the feeling that a lot of students don't care about anyone's well-being but their own. I propose that we all should keep our eyes open and look out for each other. I know that I feel the safest when I know that someone is watching my back, and if I can walk around here thinking that a couple thousand people are watching my back, then I should have nothing to worry about.



FILE PHOTO

Security vans will help you get home safely.

Want hassle-free parking? Get a permit

By Lindsay Saxe

Parking is tricky in the Homewood campus area. Having had a car on campus for only a month, I somehow managed to get merely two campus parking tickets and one Baltimore City parking ticket. Needless to say, I didn't go to the trouble of buying a parking permit, as I only managed to con my father out of his car for 30 days and no longer.

Getting a parking permit is relatively easy and cheap. However, there are ways to get around

this if you are careful and have the patience to drive around looking for a place. It holds true more so during Intersession, obviously, because there are less people vying for 10 feet of unabated, stone colored curb.

Okay, so there are a few places where a permit is not necessary, but where every student and his 12 younger brothers and sisters also want to park. Both sides of 34th St. in front of Wolman and McCoy are the hottest areas because they are right in front of the dorm, and merely steps away

from the best food in Baltimore, at Wolman Station and The Depot. It's rare to find a spot empty during the semester, but if you're feeling lucky, or you just can't find anything else, this is one place to look. If you find a spot, don't plan on moving it, because it will be gone before you can say Taco Bell Express.

Most of the parking on University is free after 5 p.m., and where there aren't any meters, it's free all day long. Again, predominantly luck determines whether or not you'll find a home for your

Volkswagon on this street. There are also places on Calvert where no permit is needed, but that's a tiny bit further from campus, and not a place you would want to park after dark — unless, of course, you're a 300 lb football or baseball player. Even they are vulnerable to purse snatchings and drive-bys, so don't think just because you or your companion look like Stone Cold Steve Austin, you're not susceptible.

One other cool thing I discovered about parking: on the weekends, you don't need a permit to park almost anywhere. Well, except on campus. But around Charles Village, the meters aren't hungry and don't need to be fed.

So that's it for my knowledge of free parking. There are places you can park on N. Charles, but I'd recommend not parking there. Baltimore City is dying to tow your car if it's parked there after 4 p.m., and they will charge at least a hefty \$200 to get it out.

Trust me, impound lots are not places you want to visit.

The best idea, however, would be to just get a parking permit if you're planning on having a car on campus for the rest of the semester.

Here are the steps to take. First, you must assemble a barrage of paperwork including a copy of your lease (or ownership title), a

checkbook (to pay with), your license and your registration.

Also, if the car belongs to mom, dad, sis or your great uncle Bart, you have to get them to sign a notarized letter stating that you are the sole driver of the car. What the effectiveness of this is, I have no idea. But maybe it makes the city parking people feel better. Who knows?

Once you've shown the parking goblins down at 417 E. Fayette St. everything but your blood type and the original car dealer's first born child, you then fork over a mere \$10 for parking freedom.

Well, relative freedom anyway. A permit for Area 12 opens up Charles Village, and most areas east of N. Charles. A permit for Area 24 allows you to park on Charles St., on both sides of that little service road. Nevertheless, if you leave your car there after 4 p.m. it'll still get towed.

Maybe parking around Homewood campus isn't so bad. Yet there is virtually nowhere to park on campus unless you go through the school for another 12-step program to getting a permit. It beats having those annoying parking tickets hanging over your head though. I'm probably going to wait a little while before paying mine.

A little while before graduation, that is.



FILE PHOTO

Want a parking spot like this one? Good luck finding it.

Finally freed from the residence halls, learn to live in style

Don't get out often? Make sure your apartment looks good ... you'll be spending a lot of time in it.

By Liz Steinberg

Being a college student doesn't mean you can't live in style. Think about it: For the first time in our collective lives, we have a place to call our own. There's no worrying about housing violations (I never understood what Residential Life

had against large wall-hangings — I mean, ours never caught fire despite all our illegal candles and Christmas lights) and your new apartment or house is yours, all yours — for the next several months if not longer. Sure, you're not going to spend the rest of your life living on St. Paul St., but while you're there, you may as while

make the best of it.

So, get creative and decorate. Basically, anything that looks like it took effort and planning will probably look fine. Remember, you're only limited by the creativity of your mind.

Pick a theme.

A theme is a good way to coordinate a room or apartment and can be anything from film noir to *Moulin Rouge* to purple. While not necessary, a theme can help you organize your room and add a touch of class.

Shop at yard sales.

You can find tons of great bargains at yard sales, thrift stores, yard sales, etc. Some things may look great right off the bat while others may require some clean-up. Just keep in mind the possibilities. For instance, I found a two-foot-tall red glass lamp for \$3 at a yard sale. I hesitated when I first saw it, since, standing amidst a pile of discards, well, it looked like a discard. But now, one lampshade and a good scrubbing later, it complements our patterned red couches and rug, adding a classic touch to our warm, homey living room.

Get crafty.

Doing it yourself is a cheap alternative to buying. Think of your home as a blank canvas: If you're planning to live there for at least a year, you may want to consider painting the walls — anything from a solid color to a

mural — and most likely, your landlord won't mind so long as you paint it back before you leave.

You can also create smaller items with limited supplies and money. Start with basics — troll Target, IKEA and/or Wal-Mart for simple clay pots, planks of wood and basic furniture. Then, dress them up as you please — with paint, magazine clippings, fabric, etc.

Also, old furniture can be redone in myriad ways — wooden furniture can be painted or revarnished, although if you choose the latter option, you may have to sand off the older layer first for best results. Couches and other chairs can be reupholstered — either toss an old sheet on top, or buy fabric of your choice and glue or staple it on top of the other upholstery. It's not as hard as it seems.

Frame it.

What a difference a frame makes — a simple frame can turn what would have looked like a college apartment into a real home. First, take your favorite posters, postcards, album covers, magazine covers and/or pictures. Then, go to Bed, Bath & Beyond (I've always had luck there, though you can try other homeware stores as well) and find an inexpensive frame — frames in the 16-by-20 range cost around \$11. You can either fit the frame precisely to the size of the item you'll be framing, or you can find one larger and make a mat — either cut a hole in an appropriately-sized sheet of cardboard or mount your

item directly on colored paper/cardboard. Framing something takes a bit more effort than just hanging it on the wall, but it adds a more finished look to any room.

Buy a plant.

Plants add life, but, remember, you have to water them. If you can handle that, consider buying fish. But remember, you have to feed them.

Coordinate.

Two heads frequently work better than one, and so do two wallets. If you work with the other residents, you'll wind up with a larger range of ideas as well as a larger budget. You can either coordinate your decorating if you're going for the themed, matching look, or everyone can contribute a few pieces of their own choosing in order to create a more eclectic atmosphere. Coordination is more important for the former look: If you're planning a sleek, modern living room, you might want to warn your roommate before she brings her frilly, floral country-home curtains. You also might want to come to a consensus.

Keep it clean.

This doesn't really require creativity, but if you want to make your domicile look good, it will look undoubtedly better if it's kept clean. After all, if you put this much effort into expressing your style, you don't want your unwashed plates, dirty socks and paper drafts serving as distractions.

Shack up with good peeps

By Lindsay Saxe

Living with a roommate can be one of the best or worst experiences of your life. When you come here as a freshman, there's no telling what the person you'll be brushing your teeth with for the next nine months is going to be like. People are weird. People are variable. People, most of all, are unpredictable.

The initial feeling you get about someone could be totally wrong or right on the mark. Living with a complete stranger can test your ability to be considerate, understanding and most of all, accepting. The guy/girl could be a nympho, a slob, a clepto, a nerd or a psychopath. He or she could also end up being your best friend — someone you know the rest of your life, who comes to your dinner parties and trades stories with your kids. And when you finally finish the roller coaster ride that is freshman year, you get to live with whomever you want; it may be the same person, or you may be furiously itching to get away from your current roommate's funky smell.

First and foremost, junior Melissa Grober said, "Don't live with your best friend." Ultimately, if you want the relationship to survive four years at Hopkins, it's not wise to share your 50 sq. ft. of living space. Granted, you might be one of those odd people I've heard of who live with the same guy the entire time they're here and it goes off without a hitch. Needless to say, that doesn't happen often.

As senior Liz Luedtke pointed out, "Besides, when you live with your best friend, you have no one to bitch to about your roommate." How true.

Grober also made a good point on that note saying that, "When your roommate isn't your best friend, you can dismiss all of their

little idiosyncrasies. When it's your best friend, those things just get on your nerves more."

It's a universally known fact that there are probably only two or three people you'll meet throughout your entire lifetime who are tried and true kindred spirits. I've met one. She knows literally every detail of my life — my deepest, darkest secrets. I feel comfortable telling her absolutely everything, no matter how embarrassing or trite. And if I ever lived with her, I'd kill her. She has a pet rat named Mercury Master Flash (after a pimp who frequents her coffee shop in Dayton, Ohio) that smells like it has been rooting through garbage and shit for its entire rodent lifetime. Her clothes are her carpet, she doesn't eat anything but bread and coffee and she's nocturnal. But I love her. And the only reason we're still best friends is we've never attempted to keep common living quarters.

There is one thing that you must keep in mind, however. If you're a girl, and you like variance in your wardrobe (as most of us do), but you don't have the money to do it (and if you did, you'd need a walk-in closet the size of your dorm room) you should try to find a roommate who wears the same sizes as you. Trust me, this is key. My current roommate (the illustrious, hot sophomore T-bone) and I have an open-closet policy. And even though she's an annoyingly-perfect size zero to two in pants, I can manage to fit into some of her sweaters and shoes. And she into mine.

The great thing, too, is that we are both pretty considerate of returning things and not getting stains on each other's favorite shirts. Though I have to admit, I've fallen hopelessly in love with one of her sweaters. I'm weaning myself off of it though, or else I'll need therapy before finals are over and we part ways for the summer.



The author follows some of her own advice: Note the framed pictures, the reupholstered chair (left), the yard-sale lamp and the plant (upper left—this is what happens when you don't water them).

LIZ STEINBERG/NEWS-LETTER

There's no need to call your lazy landlord

Anybody can be his own handyman — with a little caulk and some know-how, you can do it yourself.

News-Letter Staff

Whether living on campus or off, at some point, something will most likely go wrong, get broken or simply just won't work. At that point, you will have a couple of options. If in the dorms, you can call physical plant to come in and fix it. If you're living in an apartment, you can contact the supervisor, or maybe the landlord if you're in a row house. Depending on your situation with your landlord, though, this may cost money, especially if you broke it, which leads to the next possible answer: do-it-yourself home improvement.

I never really considered myself much of a handyman, but I faced just such a dilemma sophomore year. At the end of the fall semester, through some unfortunate bit of luck, I managed to crack the reservoir on the toilet in my suite. I heard a trickling sound, and next thing I knew, the water was draining at an alarming rate from the toilet. Worst of all I had to leave for home in two days. I figured I could call downstairs and have someone fix it, but that would have meant also that I would have gouged for the

price of a new toilet, something I did not want to do, since I had absolutely no use for a used toilet.

I had always loved working with my hands, so I proceeded to go out to the Mecca of do-it-yourselfdom, Home Depot. I talked to someone out there and, after I explained my problem, he gave me a simple solution. For about ten dollars, I got everything I needed and took the materials back to my dorm. I spent the rest of the day applying a compound and then letting it dry. The following day, I sanded it down and added some touch up. Then, it was time for the moment of truth. I filled it up and, viola, the leak was no more. Bob Vila was born.

I moved to a row house the following year. This presented me with a whole host of opportunities. Needless to say, I became very familiar with Home Depot. Living in a fraternity house has its definite upsides, but the obvious downside is stuff needs to get fixed all the time, and we end up having to sub-contract the labor to ourselves. It was not, however, as big of an ordeal as I thought it would be.

All of that changed in January. Through another set of unfortunate circumstances, I happened to fall over in a chair and crack the wall. For those of you unfamiliar with construction, a substance called drywall basically makes up the walls in most relatively modern buildings. It is supported by wooden beams, but for the most part, it is only a half of an inch thick and thus easily breakable. I had no idea how to do dry-walling, much less how to make it look good, but I had to do something, since hanging a black trash bag over the wall in the dining room was not a viable alternative.

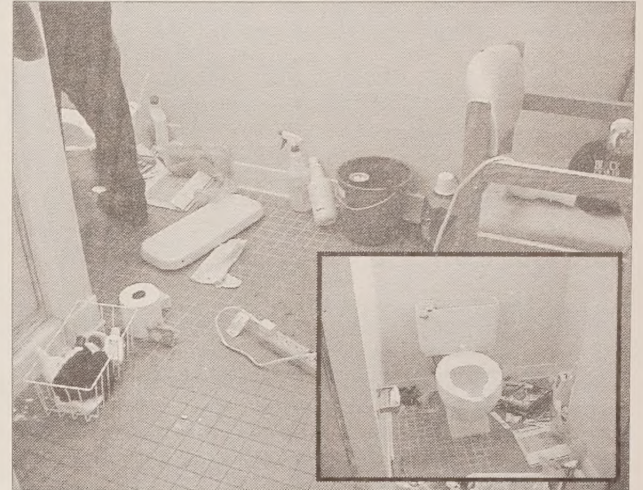
I again returned to Home Depot and talked to the dry-wall guys out there and for about 20 bucks got everything I needed. It took me several days, but at the end, I had fixed the wall, fixed the trim around it and repainted it just in time for a party.

From all these "adventures" I have learned two things. First, if you are willing to listen and then take your time, home improvement and repair is really a simple business. I would not consider myself especially tal-

ented at this sort of thing, and thus if I can do it, so can anyone else. Second, contracting is perhaps the biggest rip-off in the world, next to auto repair. I saved myself quite a bit of money by doing the work myself. Granted, it's a learning process, so it takes time to make it look acceptable, but, in the end, if you are willing to exert the ef-

fort, it will pay off.

The big thing, though, is to never tackle anything unless you completely understand how to do it. I'm still scared of plumbing, as well as of electrical work, so judge for yourself. But if for no other reason than a learning experience, give it a whirl; you might surprise yourself. Plus it makes a good story



FILE PHOTO

The infamous dorm room toilet: before and after.

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Don't sit on crates — be a smart shopper

The cold, hard floor of your new pad is no place for you to sleep. Here's how to furnish on the cheap.

By Charles Donefer

The first time you enter your new apartment or house is quite a thrilling experience. Finally, a space that belongs exclusively to you (and your roommates), in which you can do whatever you please. There are no RAs, no room checks and no too-narrow beds

Who knows what awful things the previous owner did on that mattress? It's best not to risk it.

with uncomfortable mattresses. Of course, when your first night rolls around, that lack of a bed could start to be a bit of a pain. You have to furnish your apartment, something you've probably never had to do before.

The first thing you need is a bed. The best place to get any furniture is from back home, where the price is right and the delivery crew takes you out to dinner. Of course, if you grew up in an apartment (as I did), you don't have much extra furniture lying around in the non-existent attic.

Unlike the rest of your stuff, you should try to avoid getting a used mattress. You spend about a third of your time sleeping, so a good mattress is of supreme importance. In addition, who knows what awful things the previous owner did on that mattress. It's best not to risk it. The problem is that a new full-size mattress can run you upward of \$500, although this price includes a box spring and a rudimentary frame. Try Mattress Discounters in Towson Circle or Ikea at the White Marsh Mall.

Your next step is to worry about desks, couches, chairs and tables. These items tend to be very expensive, so you need to buy most of this used. You should start thinking about this before you move in, in the middle of spring semester. Around then, start treating your senior friends' pads like they were showrooms. Ask if they're selling their stuff and how much they're selling it for. I snagged all sorts of stuff that way for not

that much money, including \$200 desk for \$40. A permutation on this strategy is to ask the current tenants of your future apartment or house if they are willing to leave some of their stuff behind, for a price. Good deals can also be had this way, since they might end up trashing the furniture anyway.

After your personal relationships with the soon-to-be-departed have been fully exploited, look around campus bulletin boards for moving sales. Be sure to check out the stuff in person before you pay and make sure they're staying around long enough to still be in town for your move-in date.

Some might be tempted to cruise around town looking for yard sales. I'm not a fan of this particular method of furniture-acquisition. Aside from the requirement that you wake up early on a weekend, the stuff you can get at yard sales is usually not very good. It's best to stick with the Hopkins community for your used-furniture needs.

Once you have all the used furniture you can get, it's time to think about the kitchen. For the cheap among us, you can get all the utensils, plates and glasses you need from the dining halls if you bring them out one at a time. Although I don't condone stealing from Wolman or Terrace, I certainly won't rat you out for making the meal plan a slightly better

The stuff you can get at yard sales is usually not very good. It's best to stick with the Hopkins community for your used-furniture needs.

value.

Of course, there is no need to steal when you have Ikea. Out in White Marsh, you can get everything you need for the kitchen (see table) at a very affordable price. While you're there, you should pick up a desk lamp, a

bathroom curtain and mat, a rug, some candles and whatever else strikes your fancy. The stuff is cheap, so you'll probably find yourself making lots of impulse buys.

Be warned: Ikea is a double-edged sword — if you do too much of your shopping there, your place will look like everybody else's. Ikea isn't really a well-kept secret.

Of course, a car is incredibly useful for the entire process. If you don't have one, make friends with someone who does.



LIZ STEINBERG/NEWS-LETTER

Assembling furniture yourself may be cheaper but takes talent.

Cooking for yourself

Continued from Page 18

cooks can learn some basic skills and tips for avoiding failure.

For those faint-at-heart or short on time, start easy. Cooking is fun, but you need time. If you're in a rush, be nice to yourself. Take advantage of microwave EasyMac, canned soup and sub-to-go at Uni-Mini. Carry-out is your friend. Silk Road can be your second home and Samir at Uni-Mini your new best friend.

Dinner parties, however, are the icing on the cake. Suddenly, your guests can have seats in your dining room instead of spots on the end of your dorm room bed. Cooking really doesn't have to be hard ... your kitchen won't hold it against you if you fry eggs instead of calamari. Potluck dinners make an easy feast, with everyone making one dish and then eating them all. Work magic with easy recipes like roast chicken, pasta, potatoes and barbeque.

Then again, there's no need to make things from scratch that come easier in a box. Efficiency, my friend, is the key. Boxed brownies, focaccia bread-mix and just-add-water pancakes are there to make your life easy and your stomach happy. Use 'em!

Sophomores are looking forward to next year.

"I love cooking. The meal plan gives me the shits," sophomore Austin Evers said. He can't even wait until next year to take a hold of his own diet. He's on the 14-meal plan because he lives in McCoy, paying \$1600 per semester because the University requires it, but said he "hasn't been to Wolman since last semester."

Instead, with a girlfriend in the Bradford who has a kitchen, he already buys and cooks all his meals and said he spends about

\$80 each week on food. "All my [allowance] money goes towards food. It's probably my biggest expenditure, but it's worth it."

Once one is in control with one's own kitchen, only the sky is the limit. With a little effort, it doesn't take much to do better than the Sodhexo cooks.

"The workers at the pasta bar in Terrace use a ladel-ful of oil every time. They really shouldn't worry, because after that, nothing will ever stick to the pan," Evers said. "It's disgusting. I can cook pasta so much better."

The advantages of having one's own kitchen don't stop at cooking, either.

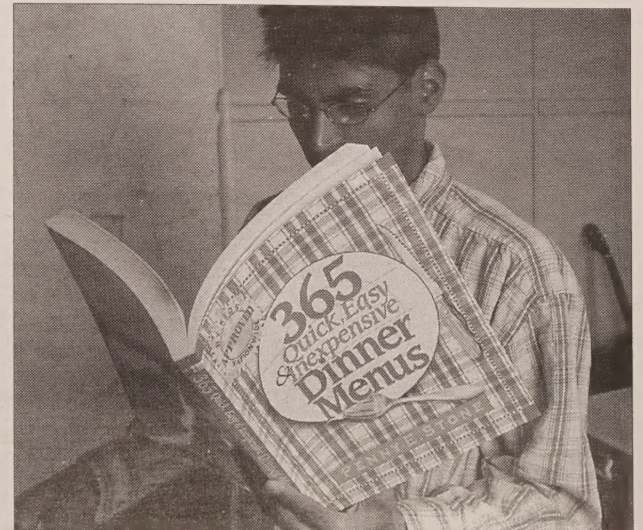
"You should always have sex in the kitchen because you get hungry," one sophomore in McCoy said. "I've been waiting two years to have a full kitchen of my own."

A kitchen can empower you. Sophomores in the Bradford can

already experience the beauty of independence. Unlike dorm students in McCoy and Wolman, they have full kitchens and aren't required to be on the meal plan. The benefits seem to abound.

"I either cook or go out. I have a kitchen, and the dining hall sucks," said sophomore Suzie Siefert. She estimates that she spends less than she would on the meal plan, eats better and still has more left over for buying clothes and alcohol.

Yes, being an upperclassman brings more responsibilities. But having to do the dishes is really only a small price to pay for getting to eat what you want. As a junior or senior, you're just one step closer to being completely independent. Hell, use paper plates if you need to. Seven bucks is now a gourmet meal, instead of a frozen carrot sticks and greasy pasta at Terrace.



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